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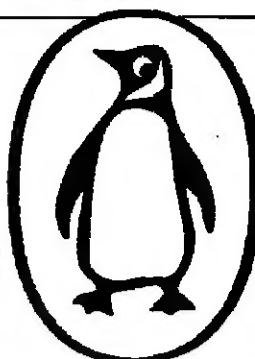
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Labour ordered to return grand prix chief's £1.5m

BY ANDREW PIERCE
AND NICHOLAS WOOD

THE Labour Party was ordered last night by the new Public Standards watchdog to return a £1.5 million donation from the head of Formula One racing.

The decision to give back the money from Bernie Ecclestone, President of the Formula One Association, followed 72 hours of pressure on the party to confirm its financial links with the industry after grand prix were excluded last week from the Government's ban on tobacco sponsorship.

Mr Ecclestone gave between £8 million and £10 million to the Tories between 1992-97 but switched sides before the general election. In January he paid £1.5 million into

Labour Party coffers — one of the biggest individual donations the party has received, and about 10 per cent of its 1996 income.

The only other personal gifts in the same league came from Paul Hamlyn, who gave £600,000 to Labour, and Matthew Harding, the Chelsea football club vice-chairman, who donated £1 million shortly before his death last year in a helicopter crash.

The Prime Minister personally ordered that Formula One should be excluded from the tobacco ban, in defiance of the Health Department, after a meeting at Downing Street on October 16 with Mr Ecclestone, Max Mosley, the President of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile, the sport's governing body, and David Ward, who also

works for the organisation. When Tony Blair met the delegation he was aware that Mr Ecclestone had made a large donation.

The Labour Party, which insisted last night that the exclusion had not been influenced by Mr Ecclestone's generosity, said that the decision to seek advice from Sir Patrick Neill, QC, who took over formally yesterday from Lord Nolan as Public Standards watchdog, was taken after the policy review.

Labour's leaders are understood to be shaken by Sir Patrick's decision but, having asked for his guidance, knew they had no choice but to accept it.

However, *The Times* has learnt that Sir Patrick never received the faxed letter from Tom Sawyer, General Secretary of the Labour

Party, until 7pm last Friday — about four hours after journalists, including representatives from *The Times*, challenged the party to confirm that Mr Ecclestone was a major donor. No contact had been made with Sir Patrick prior to that faxed letter.

Labour officials maintained throughout the weekend and most of yesterday that they could not confirm or deny whether Mr Ecclestone, who earns a reported £29 million a year, was a benefactor.

They stuck to party rules, introduced last year, which insist that donors' names can be listed only in the annual financial report, next out in September 1998.

Mr Ecclestone's donation would have been confirmed but, in keeping with Labour's rules, the size would be secret.

The climbdown was announced yesterday at 5pm, shortly after Sir Patrick conveyed his views to Labour's leadership. The party maintained its decision not to discuss how much Mr Ecclestone had given. But *The Times* understands from senior political sources that it was £1.5 million.

Only minutes earlier a solicitor acting for Mr Ecclestone denied categorically that his client had given money. John Reynolds, of the city firm Herbert Smith, said: "A statement at the weekend denying my client gave money to the Labour Party still stands."

Mr Ecclestone changed his tune later, confirming he was a financial supporter. He then claimed he "never sought any favour from New Labour or any member of Govern-

ment". He added in a statement: "There had been speculation over the past few days that I have made a donation to the Labour Party. I met Mr Blair in July 1996 and was very impressed with him and his plans for our country."

"In January 1997, I was asked by a colleague to make a contribution to New Labour, which I did. I have never sought any favour from New Labour or any member of the Government, nor has any been given."

In a statement last night Sir Patrick, who has been asked by the Prime Minister to investigate party political funding, welcomed Labour's "speedy response".

He said: "I am delighted that the Labour Party has acted on my



"What is it they say?
There's no smoke
without fire"

Cheering as
judge frees
Louise
Woodward

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, AND JAMES BONE

LOUISE WOODWARD was last night freed from jail after her conviction for murdering eight-month-old Matthew Eappen was reduced to involuntary manslaughter.

Supporters both inside and outside the court in Cambridge, Massachusetts, cheered as Judge Hillier B. Zobel cut a mandatory life sentence to one of 279 days — the time she has already spent in prison. He said: "I do not denigrate Matthew Eappen's death or his family's grief. It is in my judgment time to bring the judicial part of this extraordinary matter to a compassionate conclusion."

The prosecution immediately announced that it would be appealing and called for Woodward to remain in jail in the meantime, but the judge rejected the application. But he also told Woodward that her passport would not be returned to her yet.

The defence intends to go ahead with an appeal in an attempt to win total vindication for the 19-year-old British au pair. Asked before the new sentence was imposed whether Woodward would appeal against the reduction of the verdict to manslaughter, her lawyer Barry Schick said without a moment's hesitation: "Yes, certainly."

Later, at the sentencing hearing, the prosecutor Ge-

Judge Zobel: murder
verdict was wrong

rard Leone argued for a minimum 15-year sentence because, he said, Woodward had refused to accept responsibility for Matthew's death, had shown no remorse, and had left Matthew's parents with no answers about what had caused their child's death. Sunil and Deborah Eappen, who had made emotional "victim impact statements" before the mandatory life sentence was imposed ten days ago, chose not to make further statements yesterday and were not in court.

Andrew Goode, for the defence, had asked for a sentence of time served, and Woodward told the judge: "I would just like to maintain what I said at the last sentencing hearing. I am innocent."

Matthew died five days after being taken to hospital with a fractured skull on February 4. The prosecution said the injury indicated that the baby's head had been slammed against a hard surface and blamed Woodward, the only adult to be with Matthew that day.

But the defence said that clear fluid found in the baby's skull proved that the injury had been sustained two or three weeks earlier. Woodward insisted that she did not hurt the child, saying she only shook him a bit when she found him unresponsive in his cot after a bath. She denied

telling police that she may have been "a little rough" with him.

The jury nevertheless found Woodward guilty of second-degree murder and when the verdict was read out, she burst into hysterical sobs crying: "I didn't do anything. I never hurt Matty."

Yesterday, in his 12-page ruling, Judge Zobel said that after "extensive, cool, calm reflection", he was "morally certain" that the murder conviction was a miscarriage of justice.

"I believe that the circumstances in which the defendant acted were characterised by confusion, inexperience, frustration, immaturity and some anger, but not malice," he wrote.

"Frustrated by her inability to quiet the crying child, she was a 'little rough' with him' under circumstances where another, perhaps wiser, person would have sought to restrain the physical impulse. The roughness was sufficient to start (or restart) a bleeding that escalated fatally." But he added: "I view the evidence as disclosing confusion, fright and bad judgment, rather than rage or malice."

He also wrote that had a manslaughter verdict been available to the jury — which was restricted to "murder or nothing" — it might have selected it. That, he said, would accord with "one rational view of the evidence": that Matthew did have a pre-existing blood clot that the defendant did handle him roughly; that the handling — if not the roughness — was intentional and with an excessive and therefore unjustified force; and that the handling caused the rebleeding which caused Matthew's death.

The suggestion that the jury might have chosen a manslaughter verdict was immediately endorsed by one of the jurors, Stephen Colwell, who said: "Had that option been before us, we might have come



Louise Woodward: "I would just like to maintain what I last said. I am innocent"

to the same conclusion. I am greatly relieved; I was distraught over the fact that a new trial may have been ordered or the verdict overturned. Judge Zobel's decision is a good one for the jury."

There was delight in Woodward's home village of

Elton, Cheshire, although supporters said that they would continue their campaign to have her acquitted of all charges. But Matthew's grandmother, Achamma Eappen, emphasised that Woodward had still been found guilty of killing the

baby. "All that we wanted was for us to know what really happened and this still shows that she's guilty," she said.

The judgment, page 12
Libby Purves, page 22
Leading article, page 23
Victoria McKee, page 43

Business urged
to prepare for
single currency

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP BASSETT

TONY BLAIR promised last night to be a leader in Europe as he prepared to deliver Labour's most enthusiastic endorsement of a European single currency.

The Prime Minister will today echo yesterday's message to the Confederation of British Industry from Gordon Brown, that companies should get down immediately to preparing for economic and monetary union (EMU).

Mr Blair will say that the Government wants the single currency to be a success and Britain to be part of it in due course if the economic benefits are clear. In a live video link with the CBI meeting in Birmingham, he will add that business and the City should start "active preparations" now. Mr Blair and Mr Brown were hardening their pro-European positions as William Hague, the Opposition leader, told the CBI he had "deep concerns" about the project and likened supporters of it to "lemmings".

The Chancellor announced moves to help British companies use the euro years before any government decision on membership. Under legal changes heralded by Mr Brown yesterday, companies would be able to trade and deal in the euro from the launch date in 1999 although he has ruled out British membership before the next election.

Later, in his first speech to the Lord Mayor's Banquet in London, Mr Blair said it was time for Britain to end the isolation of the past 20 years. He said: "Britain is part of Europe. It must play its full part in leading it. Not because there is no alternative. There is: we could go. But because it is in the British interest to stay. As we are staying, let us do so with effect."

Mr Hague said business could find itself in a burning building "with no exits" because of monetary union.

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Sweden Skr 25.00; Switzerland Sfr 5.00;
Tunisia Din 2.200; USA \$3.50.

Britain observes
Armistice silence

Much of Britain will come to a halt at 11am today to observe the Armistice Day two minutes' silence. Airports, law courts, radio and television stations, councils, schools and businesses are among the many organisations marking the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in tribute to British servicemen and women who died for their country.

BT to make \$3bn on MCI bid

BRITISH Telecom accepted \$7 billion (£4.13 billion) for its shareholding in MCI, the American telecommunications group that bowed to a record-breaking \$37 billion bid from WorldCom, the American phone company.

Including an instant \$465 million break-up fee payable to BT, the British company will make a profit of about \$3 billion on its MCI

adventure. The MCI deal enters the record books as the world's biggest bid. Speaking on future developments, Sir Iain Vallance, the BT chairman, said that already BT had been approached by other US companies. He added: "We will now be looking at investments in the US and other parts of the world."

He did not rule out other

options such as share buy-backs if that was in the best interests of shareholders at the time the decision was taken. Shares in BT rose 11p to 465p yesterday, against a low of about 380p earlier in the year when the City raised doubts about the terms of the British company's original bid for MCI.

Business news, page 29

US resumes Iraq
spy flights

The United States resumed U2 reconnaissance flights over Iraq as Washington struggled to muster support at the UN for a tough response to Baghdad's defiance. The flights went off safely despite bellicose warnings from Iraq and the Pentagon saw the successful mission as a sign that President Saddam Hussein may not want to escalate the dispute... Page 17

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Dome proves to be a questionable Experience

WAS that a smell of sulphur in the air? It was like the moment when the Bad Fairy stalks on to the pantomime stage. Fear, loathing and fascination hung in the atmosphere in equal proportions. One MP even hissed.

Peter Mandelson had finally been brought to the dispatch box. There he was—living, breathing—in immaculate grey suit, white shirt and turquoise tie. His hair, held in place by perhaps by the lightest application of spray, was perfect.

And he would speak. What was his voice like? Darth Vader? A whole new generation of MPs and cub reporters have never heard Mandelson speak in the Chamber. He would answer for five min-

utes. So after six months on the salary of a Minister of State we can fix his estimated value as a Commons speaker at about £247 per second. What could Mandelson be about to say to justify this rate of pay?

As the elusive Minister sat in silence, tense but poised, awaiting his moment, the preceding Questions to the Culture Secretary Chris Smith seemed an eternity.

Besides, there were no interesting questions for Mr Smith. A ludicrous feature of the Commons Questions procedure is that these are notified in writing a fortnight before the afternoon on which they will be asked. Two weeks ago nobody was talking about donations to the Labour Party from the



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

moguls of motor racing: no one had suggested squeezing a quart of British opera into the pint pot of Covent Garden. There were therefore no questions on the only topical subjects in Smith's portfolio.

Light relief was provided by Sports Minister Tony Banks, who is still finding it hard to shake off the habits of an Opposition backbencher, and yesterday (if I heard aright) took to heckling his own fellow-ministers. Junior minister Mark Fisher was being harried by

MPs concerned that there were too many children's cartoons on television. Defending the BBC, the minister protested that children would search in vain for a silly cartoon on the BBC.

"They can come 'ere then," cracked a voice which seemed to come from the minister sitting next to Mr Fisher. Banks adopted his innocent, "not me, gov" expression, and I may stand corrected.

At 3.11pm, a whole minute late, Mandelson rose, pale as Banquo's ghost, in complete silence. MPs

had 300 seconds to interrogate him. They never got past the first question on the Order Paper. This was from Dr Phyllis Starkey (Lab, Milton Keynes SW) and lacked the monumental quality the moment seemed to demand. She asked about "provision of an adequate transport infrastructure" for the Dome.

Mr Mandelson sounded nervous. He would not say "Dome". He kept talking about the "Millennium Experience". He spent his entire five minutes babbling about it. Unless Tony Blair rescues him at a Cabinet reshuffle the poor man's whole career is now trapped for the rest of the century by this infernal Dome. There would be masses of "exciting and enjoyable things to

do" at the Experience, he prattled. There would be "a new Millennium pier" from which to take a boat there.

Or you could "park 'n sail", he trilled. "Park 'n sail" was the message of the day, repeated twice. Like "wash 'n hold", "spray 'n stay", "smash 'n grab" or indeed, (as Mandelson doubtless hopes at the next reshuffle) "cut 'n run", the phrase is memorable and may come to be permanently associated with his name. Peter "park 'n sail" Mandelson. Too bad that, as he spoke, a judge in Boston was stealing the limelight. It is just possible that Park 'n Sail will not grace the front page headline in this newspaper.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bulger killers get new review

THE Home Secretary last night held out the prospect of an early release from custody for the boys convicted of murdering two-year-old James Bulger. Jack Straw outlined new guidelines for reviewing jail terms to be served by children detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure for murder.

He is to set a new minimum tariff to be served by Robert Thompson and Jon Venables. Halfway through the tariff their lawyers will be able to argue they should be considered for early release.

No handcuffs

A magistrate rejected an application to have a former M16 officer handcuffed during his second court appearance yesterday. Richard Tomlinson, 34, of Milton Keynes, who is charged under the Official Secrets Act with disclosing information without lawful authority, was remanded until Monday by Bow Street court.

Flag apology

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, apologised to war veterans yesterday after a Ministry of Defence worker had raised a torn Union Flag upside down over the ministry for the Remembrance Service. He said: "I very much share the annoyance felt by veterans who deserve better than this."

Castration plan

Convicted paedophiles could be "chemically castrated" within the Prison Service's programme to curb sex offenders — if they consent. Richard Tilt, Director General, said there was evidence that combining drugs with psychologically based treatment could affect the attitudes of paedophiles.

RAF men fined

Flight-Lieutenant Shaun Wildey, 28, and Flight-Lieutenant Thomas Barrett, 30, from 54 Squadron at RAF Collystown, were fined £2,500 each and severely reprimanded at court-martial after admitting faking a one-night hotel bill for expenses while on active service during the Bosnia conflict.

Train spies

The London-Kent train company Connex South Eastern is paying selected season-ticket holders £100 a month to report if they consider staff are failing in their duties. The policy was discovered when a guard asked to see a man's ticket, and found himself being questioned about procedures.

Blair needs hands clean of stains like tobacco

A GOVERNMENT that was elected to clean up politics must be seen to have clean hands. But this has been undermined by its mishandling of the decision to exempt Formula One from the ban on tobacco sponsorship. After several days of evasions and denials, this culminated in last night's decision to follow the advice (in effect, an order) by Sir Patrick Neill, Lord Nolan's successor as chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, to return a donation of undisclosed size above £5,000 by Bernie Ecclestone of Formula One.

The Government has a case, albeit not as strong as it claims. The real issue is whether an industry whose leaders have been Labour donors has enjoyed privileged access to 10 Downing Street.

It is easy to get over-excited over scandals and U-turns, but there has been a sense of over-cozy relationships between wealthy businessmen and Labour leaders, and of blurred ethical lines.

Sir Patrick may be right that criticism of the donation is "wrong and unfair". But, as he recognised, what matters as much is the impression of propriety. Hence, "in order to avoid the appearance of undue influence over policy he believed the money should be returned".

Labour can argue that it has acted more quickly than the

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Tories did in similar circumstances, not least in returning the money. But that is not the end of the matter. Above all, there is a case for openness, otherwise groundless suspicions will be raised.

For instance, Tessa Jowell, the Public Health Minister, and David Mills, her husband, who has had close links with Formula One, both anticipated potential problems and took all the correct actions on official advice to avoid a conflict of interest. In retrospect, it would probably have been better if another Health Minister had handled this issue, while the rules on

family interests need to be clarified.

More serious is the question of donations. The Government is introducing legislation requiring the identity of donors above £5,000 to be disclosed, though not as in the case of Mr Ecclestone, the amounts. But there is a big difference between a few thousand pounds and hundreds of thousands. So the amounts should be disclosed, perhaps in broad bands as happens with MPs' earnings from consultancy. Sir Patrick's advice also implies that ministers need to be more careful in dealings with businessmen

who have been big donors. Existing mechanisms for examining such problems need to be improved, as Sir Patrick said in *The Times* yesterday.

At present, the Cabinet Secretary is usually called in but, as Sir Robin Butler's embarrassing experience over the Jonathan Aitken and Al Fayed affairs showed, this is unsatisfactory since he is in no position to be a detective or to challenge the word of Cabinet ministers. The Commons Standards and Privileges Committee can look at the behaviour of MPs only in their parliamentary capacity and not at what they do as ministers.

I am also doubtful about the new development of using the chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life as an instant court of appeal — in this case over a weekend. The role of the Nolan, and now the Neill, committee is to look at how systems and rules work, not at individual cases. Such inquiries should be carried out by an independent figure like the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards or the Ombudsman.

The Formula One row may only be a temporary embarrassment but Tony Blair and his advisers should learn the lessons — if they want to live up to their pre-election claims of getting "gleeze".

PETER RIDDELL



David Mills and his wife, Tessa Jowell, Public Health Minister: they took all the official advice



Bernie Ecclestone, left, joined Max Mosley to win control of Formula One

Tycoon's drive built up winning formula

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BERNIE ECCLESTONE, the man who controls Formula One motor racing, almost certainly earns the highest salary in the world. Mr Ecclestone, the son of a Suffolk trawlerman, was paid £54 million last year — double the £27 million he received in each of the previous three years.

But even these massive sums pale into insignificance when compared with the £500 million valuation placed on the Ecclestone family stake in Formula One Holdings, the sport's controlling company, which is due to be floated on the stock market in the next few months. For tax reasons, this stake is largely controlled by Mr Ecclestone's wife, Slavica.

Mr Ecclestone's remarkable rise to become one of the wealthiest men in the country is still shrouded in mystery. The complex web of contracts

and deals which govern the sport are still surrounded by secrecy. But as details have emerged ahead of the float, it has become clear that Mr Ecclestone, 66, controls not just the television rights to the sport, but the corporate and merchandising rights and the circuit fees.

After leaving Woolwich Polytechnic with a degree in chemical engineering, he established a successful car and motorcycle dealership in Bexley, south London, before going on to create a property business.

But it was his skill in spotting the full financial potential of motor racing that enabled him to build his fortune. He purchased the Brabham Formula One team in the Seventies, but later sold it for £2 million to concentrate on trying to place Formula One on a more professional footing. He forged an alliance

with Max Mosley, the son of Sir Oswald Mosley, to win control first of the Formula One Constructors' Association and then FIA, the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile, the governing body of Formula One. Mr Ecclestone persuaded the FIA to hand over the television and merchandising rights to his own company, promising the sport improved profits in return.

It was Mr Ecclestone's idea to package Formula One as a fortnightly show — increasing its appeal to television and sponsors which sowed the seeds of the sport's current success. He is now targeting pay-per-view television as the next big growth market and is believed to have invested £50 million of his own money in creating a state-of-the-art system that will allow viewers to choose which driver to watch.

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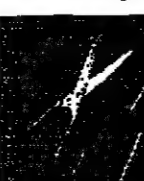
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Labour's £1.5m

Continued from page 1
advice and decided to return the donation.

"My advice was sought by the General Secretary of the Labour Party in view of the wider implications for matters of party funding which my committee will in due course be investigating."

He added: "I make no criticism of the party for originally receiving a donation from Mr Ecclestone, but in the light of the changed circumstances I stressed the importance of those in public life being judged not only by the reality but also by the appearance."

It is the second major embarrassment for the Government since the exclusion for Formula One was announced. It emerged 24 hours after the policy U-turn that the husband of Tessa Jowell, the

Public Health Minister, was a former director of the leading race team Benetton Formula.

The Tory party, relentlessly attacked over its secret sources of funding by Labour in the last Parliament, could not resist the temptation to gloat. A spokesman said: "Labour has been caught on the horns of its own hypocrisy."

A Labour spokesman said: "We have acted swiftly and done the right thing."

Mr Mosley and Mr Ward, the other two members of last October's delegation to see Mr Blair, both belong to the exclusive 1000 Club, members of which give at least £1,000 a year to party funds.

Labour's trade union support has been falling rapidly from 77 per cent of party income in 1986 to 45 per cent last year. Then the unions contributed £6 million.

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NLA

Cash pours in for Woodward fund

Organisers seek professional help in preparing for appeal against verdict, Daniel McGrory writes

LOUISE WOODWARD appeal fund organisers said yesterday that they want to use the £250,000 raised so far to clear the au pair's name, but that they needed professional help to handle the money.

Cash and cheques are pouring into Woodward's home village of Elton, Cheshire. Securoor provides a free armoured vehicle each afternoon to collect the latest cash donations and so many foreign coins and banknotes have been sent that they have been put in a safe in the community hall until banks can deal with them.

Linda Reynolds, who helped to launch the campaign in February after Woodward was arrested, said: "We just cannot cope with it all. Money is coming in faster than we can count it. It's too soon to say exactly how it should be spent, but the priority must be to prove her innocence. This is why the appeal was started."

A local bank yesterday pledged to send its own solicitor and accountant to help in distributing the money.

Mrs Reynolds said: "It has got completely out of control. We certainly haven't had time to work out what to do with



Richard Unger, Internet co-ordinator, and a woman supporter watching the manslaughter judgment coming in at the Rigger pub, the Woodward campaign headquarters

the money. Louise and her parents must be consulted along with the people of Elton. We are afraid that those who sent money might think we have wasted it. We need outside, professional help because the sums involved are enormous and getting bigger all the time."

Woodward has been kept informed of the fund's rising total in her prison cell and has

been sent some of the thousands of letters that have accompanied cheques and postal orders.

Mrs Reynolds said: "There was a night not so long ago we had a bingo session in the local pub and raised £10 profit and thought we had done well. We didn't need to appoint trustees, nor committees because we only raised £13,000 in the first eight

months. That was used to keep her parents in Boston so they could be close to her. Since the verdict it has gone mad."

Organisers are waiting to see if the US-based recruitment agency that hired Woodward will continue to pay her legal costs. Mrs Reynolds said: "Louise will appeal this [manslaughter] verdict, so our money may not go far. If she has to stay in jail

then we need to help her parents, Gary and Sue, and her sister, Vicky, stay in Boston or visit her regularly."

"If there is money left over then we want a local committee along with Louise and her family to decide how to use it. She has already hinted she would like to help a charity for children in Boston. Fund organisers were last night in consultation with the

staff from the EF Au Pair recruitment agency at the Rigger pub in Elton, which has become the campaign headquarters. Sheila McCabe said: "We need to know if they will pay for her appeal or we will have to. We will also have to find out how much that might cost."

Mrs McCabe said that when the fund started they asked a woman accountant

from outside the village to detail every donation. "She also detailed how the money was spent, which was almost entirely on living expenses for the Woodward family in Boston."

"We are afraid all this money could cause argument in the village about how it is spent. That we want to avoid at all cost."

The judgment, page 12

Campaign team greet judgment in silence

By Russell Jenkins

SUBDUED silence greeted the judgment in The Rigger public house in Elton, Cheshire, the centre of the campaign to free Woodward.

Friends and villagers squeezed into the bar were concentrating on the blank Internet website when news of the judgment filtered through via satellite television. One woman sitting on the bar put her hand to her mouth and said "oh no". Another supporter at the back of the public house whooped with delight but was shouted down. The general reaction was muted and stony-faced.

There was little emotional reaction as people broke up into knots to discuss what the judgment meant for Woodward and her chances of being home for Christmas. Karen Rhodes, 19, one of her closest friends, said: "We will fight on. We are hoping she will be home soon. We want a complete acquittal."

Jean Jones, of the "Justice for Louise Woodward" campaign, issued a statement saying: "We firmly believe, in Louise's total innocence. This campaign will continue until Louise comes home."

Web surfers caught out by power failure

By Damian Whitworth and Frances Gibb

AU PAIR Louise Woodward's agonising wait to hear her fate delivered via the wonders of new technology was prolonged by an old-fashioned black-out yesterday.

Judge Hiller B. Zobel's ruling — the most eagerly awaited single e-mail message in the history of the Internet — failed to appear on screens around the world, when an entire section of the city of Boston, Massachusetts, suffered a power failure.

As the judge pressed the button at Middlesex County Court to send his e-mail to the Lawyers Weekly magazine site on the Internet, the service provider was one of many businesses in Boston to lose power.

The failure was unrelated to the number of people trying to access the site around the world.

"The server had a power failure one minute before we were to issue the decision," Middlesex County Court clerk

Whitney Brown said. "It just totally crashed the system."

The ruling did not become available for more than an hour later.

But minutes after 3pm, when the ruling had been due to appear electronically, the result was known by American TV reporters who had had the result leaked to them by court staff.

At 3.20pm reporters were reading it live on television from hard copies given out by the court once the extent of the new technology failure became known.

Even when the decision finally made it on to the Internet, it proved tremendously difficult to access because of the number of people wishing to read it.

Virgin Net in Britain, which was one of a number of "mirror" web pages set up in order to handle the volume of users, said that it had received around 1,000 "hits" every 20 seconds as 3pm approached.

The provider of the Lawyers Weekly service, Software Tool & Die in Brookline, Massachusetts, criticised the courts for not having had a back-up.

The company said that it would have recommended this but had not been told that it would be putting out the ruling.

"No one contacted us to say that they were putting this out through our service," said Mary Riendeau, vice president of customer services.

"People will have been criticising the Internet, but the Internet is not a real-time network but is expected to be such."

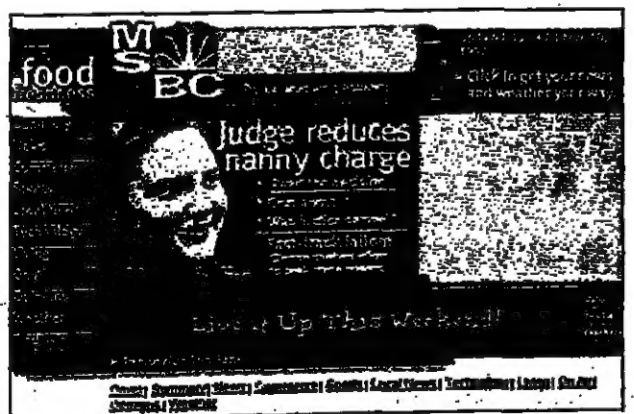
Judge Zobel had intended that his decision would be issued only over the Internet system to avoid a media crush at the courthouse and had wanted to make the document instantaneously available to people on both sides of the Atlantic who have closely followed the case.

The posting of the ruling on the Internet was to have been a first in Massachusetts and possibly the United States.

Other jurisdictions regularly post their decisions on the Web, but only after they have been filed with the court clerk and are available in paper copies.

More than 160 Web sites were devoted to covering the case.

The Internet is so commonly used in the greater Boston area that Judge Zobel admonished jurors daily that in addition to not watching television, reading newspapers or listening to the radio, they should not look at the Web.



A news agency's announcement of decision on Net

Timetable of case that tested justice

□ July 1996: Woodward, 18, finishes A-levels and finds placement through EF Au Pair agency in Boston, Mass.
□ November, 1996: After leaving first placement, unhappy at 11pm "curfew", starts work with Eappens in Newton Heights, Boston.
□ January 30, 1997: Eappens, concerned at late nights out, draw up written requirements for "the safety and well-being of our kids".
□ February 4: Woodward calls ambulance after Matthew stops breathing. He is put on life support at Boston Children's Hospital.
□ February 5: Woodward arrested. Pleads not guilty to battery. Unable to meet bail of \$62,500, sent to Framingham women's prison.
□ February 6: Matthew critical. As well as brain injuries, doctors say he has four-week-old arm fracture.
□ February 10: Matthew dies of brain haemorrhage

after life-support machine is switched off.

□ February 13: Woodward denies murder. Refused bail. Funeral service for Matthew.

□ March 5: Grand jury decides Woodward must face charge of first-degree murder.

□ October 7: Trial starts.

□ October 8: Brain surgeon Joseph Medsen concedes that head injuries could have been received days or weeks before Matthew was taken to hospital.

□ October 9: Pathologist Gerard Feigin, who carried out autopsy, says he found no evidence of shaking.

□ October 14: Det Sgt William Byrne says Woodward admitted she "may have been a little rough" with baby when he was "cranky".

□ October 23: Woodward in tears as she describes frantic attempts to revive him.

□ October 26: Insists on all-

or-nothing verdict, stopping jury considering charges less serious than murder.

□ October 28: Prosecutor calls her "a liar and aspiring actress".

□ October 30: Jury returns verdict of second-degree murder: mandatory life sentence with no parole for at least 15 years.

□ October 31: Judge Hiller Zobel passes sentence.

□ November 1: Woodward tells parents: "Please don't let me spend the rest of my life in here for something I didn't do."

□ November 2: It emerges that jury was split when it retired: those favouring acquittal were persuaded to accept conviction.

□ November 4: Judge hears defence plea for verdict to be overturned or charge to be reduced.

□ November 10: Judge reduces sentence to manslaughter.

A legendary pairing.



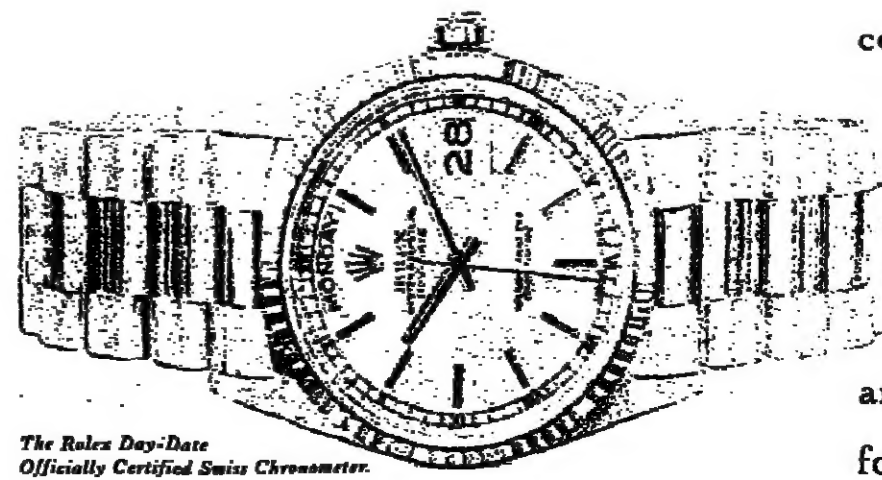
For more than three decades Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus have been joined in one of the most intriguing rivalries in sport.

Between them they infused the game with new-found excitement and drama.

"When I look back on all our years of competition," says Nicklaus, "I see it has worked exactly the way it should. It has brought out the best in both of us." And Palmer agrees, adding, "Not only that, it's also been fun."

Over the years, the pair have also competed as businessmen and golf course designers. But through all their battles, athletic and otherwise, they have shared an unwavering love for the game

and an abiding appreciation for their chosen timepiece.



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Church repents for supporting Japan's war 'sin'

REPORTS BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Anglican church in Japan has issued its first public apology for its sin in having allowed "the colonial rule and the war of aggression by the State of Japan" before and during the Second World War.

Services will return to traditional format

In a statement published today, coinciding with Armistice Day, the Nippon Sei Kai, Japan's Anglican church, which forms part of the 70-million strong worldwide Anglican communion headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, publicly apologises for its actions during the war.

The church, which has 57,000 members, says it should have repented for failing to oppose Japan's role. It said its general synod, dioceses, bishops and parishes had compromised their faith with the idea of a "Tennen", which the statement describes as a "God of heaven-ruled nation and militarism which go

against the gospel." The statement says: "The Nippon Sei Kai was oppressed by the authorities, and some priests and lay people experienced the struggle of faith. But despite these bitter experiences, our church has not been able to stand beside those who are oppressed and suffering."

The church was unable to see Japan as an aggressor in the war, the statement says. Instead, using special prayers, "our church has justified Japan's rule over other ethnic groups and supported the war under the name of Christianity. We have been a closed church whose main concern is the expansion of the membership and the retention of the institution, thus being unable to serve as the salt for the earth as indicated in the gospel."

The statement, drawn up by the church's general synod in 1996 but only released today, says the church has neglected to change its attitude, and had even included the "Tennen" system of government in its prayer book.

The church confesses that, even after the war, it failed to abandon its "discriminatory attitudes" and prays for change. According to a background paper issued by the General Synod of the Church of England, which has sent the

confession and apology to all 575 members, the process that led to the statement "involved much pain and heart-searching".

A number of other churches in Japan have produced similar statements. The Church of England considers the statement "remarkable" given the tiny size of its Japanese sister church, and when "the cultural significance of admission of

guilt, confession and apology is taken into account," according to John Clark, secretary to the Partnership for World Mission.

According to the Most Rev James Takashi Yashiro, primate of Japan, "the statement of apology has appeared 'after much prayer, reflection, discussion and heart-felt concern for the oppressed and suffering'."

The General Synod is to consider calling for an answer to all 57,000 asylum seekers currently waiting to have their applications processed. A motion on the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, which stopped political refugees from claiming benefits unless they demanded asylum as soon as they entered Britain, will be debated by members later this month.



The Japanese Ambassador with a former prisoner of war after laying a wreath at Coventry Cathedral yesterday

Hope at talks to heal rift between churches

THE Church of England and the Methodist Church will move a step closer to becoming one, united church under proposals to be debated by the General Synod later this month.

The synod is to be asked to set up "formal conversations" with Methodist leaders in Britain. Although eventual unity — with the two churches effectively coming together under one roof and ministry — could be years if not decades away, this is the first step towards healing a two centuries-old breach between Methodism and Anglicanism.

Informal talks between the two churches have been taking place for some months. The last time a move towards unity was attempted, the Church of England rejected Methodist overtures in 1982 because of concerns in the Anglo-Catholic wing of the Anglican church.

Many of those concerns remain, but the Anglo-Catholics are less strong today after the exodus to Rome caused by the ordination of women priests. However, any moves towards full unity are certain to be cautious to avoid another such rejection.

If the synod agrees to set up formal talks, proposed by the Council for Christian Unity, the Methodists will debate the issue at their conference in Scarborough next June. Talks would then proceed shortly afterwards.

Philip Mawyer, the synod's Secretary General, said: "There is a natural caution which follows the past history of events. We do not want to be the ones who walk up the aisle but then leave when we get to the top and do not go through with the partnership."

Mr Mawyer added: "If it is accepted it will set in train a process which will enable us to move forward together on an increasingly convergent path with the aim of an eventual coming together of the two churches."

Difficulties centre over the nature of episcopal leadership. Methodist churches in some parts of the world have bishops, but not in England. Also, Methodists accept the ministry of women throughout the church, whereas the Church of England is unlikely to allow women bishops to be consecrated until well after the millennium.

More apply to become priests

SO MANY people are applying to become vicars that the Church of England's training budget has gone into the red, according to figures released yesterday.

The number of men and women applying to the priesthood has exceeded all expectations and is being interpreted as a sign of growing confidence in the established Church. New figures to be published in February will also show an increase in baptisms and confirmations.

Church officials will go cap in hand to the General Synod when it meets at Westminster next month to ask for more money for the training budget. The overspend has come because the Church believes that all who have a genuine vocation must be accepted to the ministry.

After 1993, following years of decline, numbers started to increase fractionally. Then last year there was a sudden surge in numbers recom-

mended for training for the full-time stipendiary ministry. While 348 new ordinands were accepted in 1993, this increased to 390 in 1996 and has gone up further to 441 this year. About a third of ordinands are women.

An extra £210,000 is needed from the Church's central board of finance, on top of the £6 million it already pays, to finance the increase. About 600 clergy are ordained each year, keeping a level of about 10,000 in service after taking into account retirements and those who leave.

The Rev Bill Beaver, director of the Church's communications, said: "There are a lot of signs around of a recovery of confidence. There is the way the funeral of the late Princess of Wales went, the way the Church's bishops took a stand on assuring the safety of church schools, and now the rising number of ordinands. All these things add up to a new spirit of confidence."

Letters, page 23

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Lawrence K. loses appeal

Hope at talks to heal rift between churches

THE CHURCHES of England and Wales are expected to reach a historic agreement on how to share their common mission and resources. The talks, which began in 1995, are expected to conclude next month. The agreement would allow the churches to share their common mission and resources, and to work together to address the needs of the community. The agreement would also allow the churches to share their common mission and resources, and to work together to address the needs of the community.

Woman went for help with knife buried in her head

Court told man confessed to train carriage attack in 999 call, Joanna Bale reports

A WOMAN stabbed in the head on a train managed to walk to an adjoining carriage to seek help with the 5in blade still embedded up to the hilt, a court was told yesterday.

After Robert Buckland thrust the hunting knife into her head, Alison Kennedy said she walked slowly through her empty railway carriage and into the next, where another passenger kept her talking until the train stopped at the next station and the alarm was raised.

In a statement read out to the Old Bailey by Gino Connor, for the prosecution, Miss Kennedy, 28, said that she was alone in the carriage on the 8.30pm London Waterloo to Guildford train last March and was feeling frightened when Buckland went to sit behind her. "About 30 seconds later I felt a terrific pain in my head. I put my right hand up and knew that something was in my head. My hand was covered in blood. I felt the handle and then the blade. I knew it was big."

"I was shaking and terrified. I said to myself: 'God, I have got to get some help'. I walked up the carriage holding on to the seats and opened the carriage door into the next one."

There she saw a male passenger. "I said to him: 'Can you help me? What's happened?' He looked at my head. I said, 'Something terrible has happened. Have I been stabbed?' He replied, 'Yes, you have'. She then pointed out Buckland, who was further down the train, to the man. "I remember finding it difficult to sit down. I had horrific pain in my head. I kept asking him if I was going to die."

The man went to get the guard and told her that she would get help at the next station, West Clandon. As she was taken into the ambulance, the pain began to get worse. She said: "I began to shout about the pain and they gave me oxygen. I was terrified. They told me it would take 20 minutes to get to hospital. I remember thinking, 'How am I going to survive 20 minutes?'"

After being examined at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, she was transferred to the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London with the knife still embedded in her brain. Mr Connor told the court: "Miss Kennedy miraculously didn't



Artist's impression of Robert Buckland: he admits wounding

die and miraculously didn't even lose consciousness."

The court was told that after the attack Buckland tried to escape from the moving train by forcing a door open, but failed. When the train stopped, he ran off down the track and eventually stopped at a telephone kiosk where he dialled 999.

The jury was played a tape of the conversation Buckland had with the operator, in which he said: "I have just stabbed someone with a knife." The operator asked him: "Can you tell me why you did it?" He replied: "Just this urge to do it. It just came over me."

While the operator kept him talking, she alerted the police and Buckland was arrested at the telephone kiosk.

The jury was shown the knife and X-rays of it embedded in Miss Kennedy's skull. At the time of the attack, Mr Connor said, Miss Kennedy was a "fit and healthy woman with a zest for life". She had a degree in art and had done a postgraduate course in sculpture. She had spent some time working in London but had moved back to her native Belfast in 1996 to become an education officer for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. At the time of the attack, she was visiting friends and family in England.

Adrian Casey, a senior registrar at the National Hospital for Neurology, told the court that her injury was life-threatening and that she would never fully recover from the brain damage that it caused. It had left her with no peripheral vision in either eye and with a risk of epilepsy. She also had a loss of feeling in her left arm and required further surgery to insert a metal plate to repair her skull.

Buckland, of no fixed address, pleads not guilty to attempted murder but guilty to wounding with intent. The trial continues.



Alison Kennedy, who requires further surgery to repair the damage to her skull

Policewoman wins fight over work sex gibes

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A WOMAN detective who was nicknamed "Massive Cleavage" and subjected to a barrage of sexual abuse by male colleagues yesterday won her case for harassment.

An industrial tribunal ruled that Detective Constable Dee Mazurkiewicz had suffered months of harassment by Thames Valley police. DC Mazurkiewicz, 41, is the second woman officer to win a case of this nature against the force in the past three months.

During the hearings DC Mazurkiewicz, a single mother of a seven-year-old daughter, described how she was tormented by fellow officers at Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. At one stage they claimed she got confessions from criminals by "getting her boobs out".

They also accused her of wearing no underwear and performing sex acts on prisoners in exchange for confessions.

She eventually went sick and complained in November 1995 about the harassment. Inspector George Pugsley investigated her allegations and she was transferred after he found no evidence for her claims.

John Hollow, the chairman of the tribunal sitting in Reading, accused him yesterday of misrepresenting the facts when he gave evidence. He said the inspector had conceded that he thought indecent remarks had been made but then said he could not be sure they had been made by two officers accused of discrimination, Detective Sergeant Dave Phillips and Detective Constable Michael Hunter.

Mr Hollow said: "The most charitable view we can take is that it was disingenuous to say there was no evidence whatsoever. It is in our view a misrepresentation of the facts."

Mr Hollow said it was clear that within the CID office there was a culture of hawdy repartee between the officers. The woman detective had said that she was no shrinking violet.

Mr Hollow said an individual might be able to take remarks at first. Later, circumstances could change and what was acceptable might then become intolerable. That was the case for DC Mazurkiewicz.

The officer won her case for harassment and victimisation but not discrimination. She will now be examined by a Thames Valley Police medical officer to see if she is fit to return to work. Damages will be decided and announced in February.

After the decision Ian Blair, assistant chief constable of Thames Valley, said: "We feel sorry that Miss Mazurkiewicz has felt distress at this case. We will learn from it. She is welcome back and the decision as to whether she would like this is up to her."

He said that the force, which is the largest shire force in the country, would look at the judgment and further action may be taken against the officers criticised in the decision.



Mazurkiewicz: victim of station taunts

Lawrence killer loses appeal

By ADRIAN LEE

A TEENAGE gang leader yesterday lost his appeal against conviction for the murder of headmaster Philip Lawrence. Learco Chindamo, now 17, claimed he was the victim of mistaken identity and the real killer was another youth.

David Spens, QC, for Chindamo, said that witnesses who saw him strike the fatal blow as Mr Lawrence, 48, tried to break up a fight outside St George's Roman Catholic school, in Maida Vale, north west London, two years ago, were mistaken.

Judge Neil Dennis, the original trial judge, failed to properly direct the jury on the risks of identification evidence, Mr Spens said. His defence, Mr Spens said, was that the other youth, then aged 15, shortly before the stabbing and the face of the attacker was obscured by a mask or hood.

"The incident took place in a matter of seconds," Mr Spens said. "The immediate area was crowded with schoolchildren on the pavement, spilling into the road."

Mr Lawrence's widow, Frances, was at the Court of Appeal as Lord Bingham, the Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Mr Justice Kay and Mr Justice Brown, rejected the appeal. He said: "In the light of all the arguments advanced, we are in no doubt that this conviction is safe."

Chindamo was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure following an Old Bailey trial in October last year. The court heard then he was part of a triad-style gang which had gone to "sort out" a pupil at Mr Lawrence's school. Mr Lawrence was hit in the face and stabbed through the heart.

Several witnesses identified Chindamo and one schoolgirl said that she saw the other youth leave the scene before the stabbing.

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Drought damages project to restore salmon to Thames

AN AMBITIOUS plan to restock the Thames with salmon after 140 years is being threatened by drought and higher water temperatures.

This year's salmon run has been by far the lowest since scientists began reintroducing young fish into the cleaned-up river in the late 1970s and keeping an annual record of the number of adults returning from the open sea.

So far no more than 25 fish have been caught in the trap operated by the Environment Agency at Molesey Weir, 4½ miles upstream from Teddington, which marks the limit of the tidal Thames. The peak months for returning fish are August and September.

Greg Armstrong, the agency's regional fisheries manager, said: "We are seeing a worrying trend. Since 1993, when a record 338 returning fish were counted, there's been a steady decline, with 238 in 1994, 190 in 1995 and 162 last year." Salmon face unusually

Climate change and low flow blamed as fewer fish return to spawn, Michael Hornsby reports

hostile conditions this year, including low freshwater river flow, which was reduced still further by abstraction to top up reservoirs, and August temperatures of 24°C in the tideway — well above what the fish will tolerate.

Sudden summer rainstorms and flash floods made matters worse by overloading London's Victorian sewer system, which overflowed and poured large amounts of untreated effluent into the Thames, lowering oxygen lev-

els in the water. "Taken together, these conditions made it very difficult for salmon, which are fastidious fish, to get through the tideway and into the freshwater reaches of the river, which they must do if they are to have a chance of spawning," Mr Armstrong said.

"There is little doubt that drought was the critical factor, even if other things may have been happening out at sea which we do not know about. There have been dry periods before but we could now be facing a permanent climate change."

The setback comes just as the salmon restoration project was about to enter a crucial new phase with the start of work later this month on the first of 17 fish passes on the Kennet, which flows into the Thames at Reading, at a cost of £1.3 million.

The Millennium Commission has donated £588,000, the Thames Salmon Trust, a char-

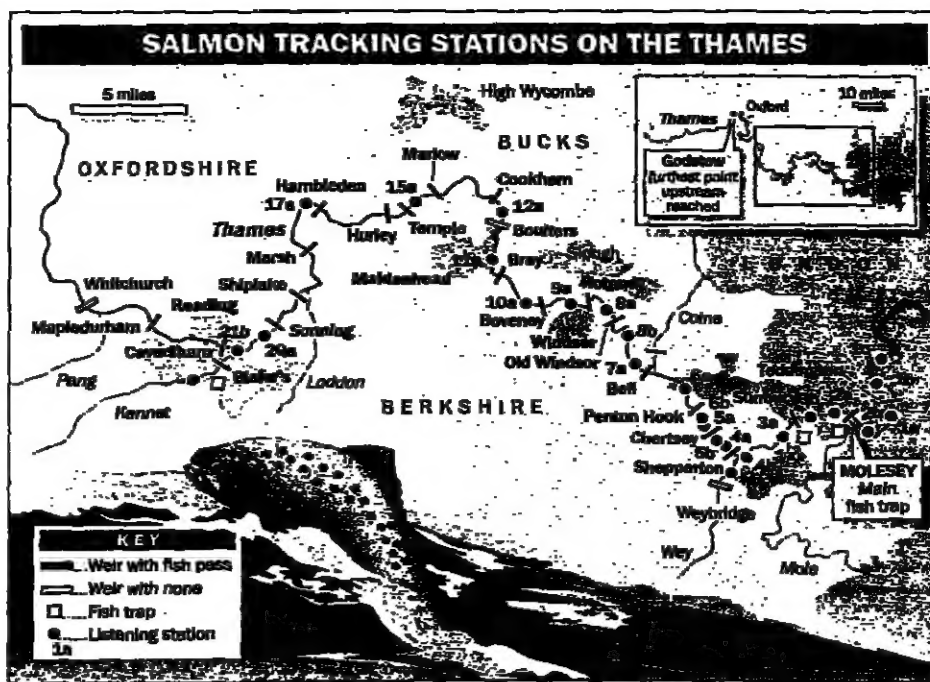
ity that raises funds from commercial sources, is providing £428,000 and the Environment Agency has agreed to make up the balance.

The Kennet is thought to offer the best spawning grounds for salmon, which like to lay their eggs in riverbed gravel washed by shallow, well-oxygenated water. The Thames itself, at least in its lower reaches, can no longer provide such sheltered sites. The passes will allow salmon to move from lower to

higher levels of the river with minimum effort, up gently sloping channels built into the side of the weir. There are already 21 passes between Teddington and Reading. Since 1995, scientists have trapped and radio-tagged many of the returning salmon and monitored their further progress upstream via a series of listening posts. The design of the Sunbury pass had to be modified after it was found that 50 per cent of fish were failing to get through it.

"Salmon are capable of jumping over weirs unaided," Mr Armstrong said. "Indeed, one was recorded as far upstream as Godstow, near Oxford, in the early 1980s. But we need virtually all returning salmon to reach the spawning grounds and not just a few super-athletes."

Scientists think that at least 1,000 salmon will need to return each year to the Thames for there to be any chance of reestablishing a truly natural population.



Goats fall victim to appeal of Irish music

BY AUDREY MAGER, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE popularity of Irish music is exacting a heavy toll on wild goats in the west of Ireland. They are being hunted for their skins by rustlers capitalising on the increasing international demand for the bodhran, the traditional hand-held Irish drum.

The Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is investigating farmers' reports that goats have been rounded up and killed along the west coast, particularly in the counties of Galway and Clare. The animals are skinned and the hides sold to drum makers, who are working to keep up with demand for the bodhran.

Malachy Kearns, Ireland's most renowned bodhran maker, said that he receives weekly calls from dealers offering goat skins for sale. "I have my own network of suppliers and do not get involved but it is obvious that these goats are going out into the woods and mountains to take shots at the goats," Mr Kearns said. "They don't have a clue about what they are doing but have heard bodhrans are fashionable and want a quick way to get some money for drink and drugs."

Since the Irish music and dance show Riverdance hit the international stage in 1994, the demand for bodhrans has surged. When he started his drum-making business in Roundstone, Co Galway, 15 years ago, Mr Kearns wondered how long it would survive. Today he is working in a £4 million industry, employ-

ing 30 other part-time drum-makers around Ireland. Almost three-quarters of the 15,000 instruments are exported and advice on how to play it is on the Internet.

The bodhran can be made with synthetic material and thousands of cheap drums are produced in Taiwan. A proper bodhran, acceptable to musicians such as Christy Moore, is treated goatskin stretched across a beech hoop, costing from £50. Many of the bodhran makers use skins from India and Africa. Mr Kearns tried them but found them too brittle and resorted to the Irish goat.

He said: "Bodhrans have to be very tough. It is not just any type of goat skin — it has to be strong enough to tolerate the bounce of the drumstick. The goat must be well fed and looked after to produce that kind of skin."

No precise figures are available but it is estimated that only a few thousand wild goats survive today, most of them along the west coast. In 1994 the EU sought to give the animals special status under the environmental protection scheme. The initiative failed, however, when farmers objected, complaining that the goats were pests and destructive of crops, leaving the animals vulnerable to rustlers.

They shoot or lasso the goats and drag them to a waiting van. Each hide fetches about £10 while the meat is sold to factories. Meat from kids fetches a good price in some Dublin restaurants.



The best bodhrans, which cost from £50, are made from the treated skin of a well-fed goat

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Boffin aged ten solves peace quest with pet project

By PAUL WILKINSON

TODD GREEN has come up with a solution to one of the biggest problems facing young people in the closing stages of the 20th century — how to keep cyberpets silent yet alive while their owners are at school.

At the age of ten, Todd's moment of popular acclaim in the world of scientific discovery was slightly marred yesterday. Even as teachers and manufacturers were hailing his work, his mother accidentally put his latest cyberpet in the washing machine, rendering it silent but dead.

Electronic pets have been banned from many of Britain's classrooms after driving teachers to distraction by their frequent beeping for attention. Their owners are reluctant to leave the gadgets at home, where their calls for feeding or playtime can end in "death" if not answered.

Todd, from Hillsborough, Sheffield, found an old-technology answer: Cheat. In a letter to *The Times Education Supplement* he tells owners to fiddle the toy's clock setting from am to pm, to make it believe that school time is night-time when it should be asleep. It was a natural advance for the boy who fixes the family computer when it baffles his father, a university lecturer. In his letter, Todd

PET CHEATS

- 1 Get on to the clock function
- 2 Press buttons 1 and 3
- 3 When the word "set" appears, press button 1 to change hour and button 2 to change minute
- 4 Your cyberpet must go to sleep every night at around 9pm. If you make sure it is satisfied, then set the clock to around ten minutes before it goes to sleep at night. Make sure you have it set to pm. Do this before school, switch off its light and it will remain happy for 12 hours.
- 5 To wake up repeat the above procedure but set to am not pm.

announces: "I have researched cyberpets and figured out a way to switch them off without killing them for up to 12 hours. For all those people who are desperate to keep them alive without being told off, here are five simple instructions. This works on most cyber pets."

Todd, a pupil at Marlcliffe primary school, said yesterday: "The pets are not yet banned at my school, but the

teachers were really getting cross. So I sat down and tried to work out how to switch my cyberpet off without killing it. It took me three days.

"Sadly my latest one is completely dead now, my mother put it in the washing machine by accident this morning and it is finished."

His father Keith, 43, a linguistics lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University said:



Back to reality: Todd Green had discovered how to keep his cyberpet alive yet silent, but then his mother put it in the washing machine

"Todd is a real cyberpet expert, in fact he's a real computer expert. He fixes anything that goes wrong on my machine when I don't have a clue."

"He's on his fifth or sixth cyberpet since I queued for hours to get him his first one last January. He acquires a more complicated one each time and passes the old one on. He's known as the boffin among friends at school. They

bring their cyberpets to him when they need special attention. He's a sort of cyberpet consultant. At one stage he was looking after about five or six of them for his friends."

"I suppose he wrote to the TES because of his parents' background. I am at university and his mother is retraining to be a teacher." Todd has two younger sisters, Faye, eight, and Kai, five, but nei-

ther are great cyberpet lovers. "Kai has a hamster" said her father. "She prefers the real thing."

A spokesman for Bandai, the original manufacturers, said: "Our cyberpets have always had the facility to reset the clock without killing it off, but we have only recently included instructions on how to do it in the literature. The method described by Todd is

exactly right. Once the set mode is displayed, the operation of the cyberpet is suspended anyway until it receives further instructions."

Cyberpets were included in a service to bless animals at the parish church of Chandler's Ford, Southampton. The Reverend Adrian Harbridge said: "If a cyberpet teaches children to not just think of themselves, then I think it is of value."

Social services knew of child sex killer

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

A CONVICTED sex offender who abducted and strangled a nine-year-old schoolboy while under the supervision of social workers was sentenced to life yesterday with a recommendation he serves at least 25 years.

Steven Leisk, 34, pleaded guilty to abducting Scott Simpson with intent to commit a sexual offence and strangling him with a scarf on July 17 this year. He also admitted previous sex attacks on two 14-year-old boys.

Scott went missing after a football game in a local park in Aberdeen. His body was found four days later in the early hours of July 22.

It emerged that the killer, who had four previous convictions for sex offences and had been released from prison in December under supervision, had been living across the road from the children's park used by Scott in the Powis area of the city.

The former army medical orderly, who served in the Falklands, was on a police list of sex offenders and under the supervision of Aberdeenshire social services department. But the High Court in

Aberdeen was told that social workers failed to alert police to the possible threat despite a highly publicised four-day search for the missing boy.

It fell to a concerned member of Leisk's family, who has not been identified, to contact the police. It was then that officers called at the paedophile's home and he confessed to the killing.

Scott's parents demanded a public inquiry into what they claimed was the atrocious handling of the case by police and social workers who yesterday were refusing to admit mistakes had been made.

Peter Cassidy, head of social work at Aberdeenshire Council, defended the member of staff responsible, claiming that he did not believe Leisk was worthy of suspicion despite his appalling past record. According to the social worker he had appeared to be making progress in his life.

However, it emerged that Scottish office guidelines recommending twice monthly visits had not been maintained. He was only seen eight times by social workers between his release and the murder.

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Naming of failing schools to continue

John O'leary and David Charter report on a policy branded a stunt

MINISTERS promised yesterday to carry on "naming and shaming" the worst schools despite teachers' claims that the approach was a political stunt with no educational value.

David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, announced that four of the 18 schools which in May were given six months to improve or face closure were no longer failing their pupils. Two schools, Blakelaw Comprehensive, in Newcastle, and

Handsworth Wood, in Birmingham, will close, although Blakelaw will reopen under a new name. The fate of the remaining dozen will be reviewed before the end of the school year. Mostyn Gardens primary school, in Lambeth, South London, and Selhurst High School, in Croydon, are still causing "serious concern" and could close.

Question marks also hang over two schools whose viability is being reviewed by their local authorities. A decision

will be made on Earl Marshall school, in Sheffield, before the end of the year, while Dulwich High School, in Southwark, South London, is the subject of a long-term review.

Teachers' leaders and the heads of some of the 18 schools said that improvements were taking place before ministers published their list. Mr Blunkett said yesterday that the process would continue. "Those who thought it was a gesture are going to get a very rude awakening," he said.

that the Government's action had triggered improvement in schools where there had been long-term failure. "I make no apology for it. I will continue doing it."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said Mr Blunkett's comments were "pure self-justifying fiction". Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "Naming and shaming was for media manipulation. It had no positive impact and no educational validity." David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "Yesterday's announcement is a shallow attempt to give credence to a political stunt."

Their criticisms were shared by the head of the most successful of the 18 schools. Jean Millham, of Morning-side Primary School, in Hackney, East London, said: "This school was improving long before the naming and shaming. We had not had an inspection since November. They condemned us six months later without bothering to pay us another visit. It just knocked everyone back and hurt the parents, children and teachers. I hope they will learn this is not the way to do it." She conceded that extra money and specialist advice



Russ Wallace, head of Blakelaw School, said that the "naming and shaming" was a catalyst for change

under the policy had allowed the school to speed up its improvement programme.

Russ Wallace, head teacher at Blakelaw School, Newcastle, said the announcement in May was a catalyst for change. Blakelaw will get a "fresh start" next September with a new name and new staff. "Our initial reaction to the naming and shaming was abhorrence and disgust," he

said. "But then we thought, 'We are not going to take this lying down. Let's see what we can do.' A lot of people did not want to send their kids here because they were worried that the school was going to close. Now that that danger has been taken away, we can begin rebuilding."

The "naming and shaming" was also criticised by Roger Coxon, head of Handsworth

Wood Boys' School, Birmingham. "You can't solve complex problems in inner-city schools by further damaging their reputation and driving parents away," he said.

The progress made by the majority of the 18 schools allowed yesterday's announcement to be one of "naming and acclaiming", according to Stephen Byers, the minister responsible for the initiative. "In

many of those schools the fact that they were identified galvanised them into action."

Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, said the exercise represented a success story. Fifteen more schools were yesterday removed from the list of those needing special measures, bringing to 55 the number that had "turned themselves around" after failing an Ofsted inspection.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Abbey Farm Middle School, Thetford (failed January 1995): Good progress, likely to come off failing list next term.

Ashburton High, Croydon (October 1995): Reasonable progress, new permanent head teacher but budget problems remain.

Blakelaw School, Newcastle (April 1996): Reasonable progress, new acting head backs LEA plan for "fresh start" next September.

Dulwich High, Southwark (April 1995): Reasonable progress, LEA still considering long-term future.

Earl Marshall School, Sheffield (August 1995): Reasonable progress, LEA considering school's future before end of year.

Handsworth Wood Boys' School, Birmingham (April 1995): Reasonable progress but closure planned at end of school year.

Kelsley Park GM School, Bromley (March 1996): Reasonable progress, standards improving but budget problems remain.

Lee Green Special School, Waltham Forest (January 1995): Good progress, likely to come off failing list next term.

Lillian Bayliss School, Lambeth (April 1994): Good progress, likely to come off failing list next term.

Morningside Primary, Hackney (January 1995): Good progress, removed from failing list last week.

Mostyn Gardens Primary, Lambeth (September 1995): Limited progress causing "serious concern", new head and deputy start next term.

Our Lady of Fatima GM School, Liverpool (March 1996): Reasonable progress, new head teacher in post.

Rams Episcopal Primary School, Hackney (April 1995): Reasonable progress, action on weak teaching and standards improving.

St Mary of the Angels, Westminster (December 1995): Reasonable progress, standards improving, new head arrives next term.

Selhurst High, Croydon (June 1995): Limited progress causing "serious concern", 15 teachers warned to improve by Christmas or leave.

South Barwell Primary, Newcastle (April 1995): Limited progress but new head showing strong leadership.

Southfields GM School, Gravesend, Kent (April 1995): Reasonable progress, standards improving, new governors to be appointed.

Upbury Manor GM School, Gillingham, Kent (April 1995): Reasonable progress, standards improving.

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Exam results provide proof of turnaround

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

DULWICH High School found itself "named and shamed" less than a year after its own relaunch when it changed its name and adopted a smart new uniform. The name it discarded, William Penn Comprehensive, had become synonymous with failure and infamy as the school that Harriet Harman passed over when she chose a grammar school for her son. Unconvinced about the future of the southeast London boys' school has not been dispelled by yesterday's report which calls for inspectors to continue closely monitoring its progress. Dulwich High was classified as failing two-and-a-half years ago and spent £100,000 on its revamp in September last year. After the "naming and shaming" announcement in May, the school blamed ministers for tarnishing its new image without giving teachers

enough time to transform the school's fortunes. More bad publicity was to follow in July with the trial of a 15-year-old pupil for stabbing another boy in the thigh. The jury cleared him of wounding with intent after hearing that bullying was rife at the school and the teenager acted in self-defence.

Lloyd Marshall, the head teacher, said: "The naming and shaming was totally unnecessary and unhelpful. I just wish people would be aware of the context and give my staff credit for the amazing work they have done."

He said that it was not unusual for almost three-quarters of 11-year-olds to arrive at Dulwich High with a reading age below nine, forcing the teachers to concentrate on the basics.

Evidence of the school's improvement has been provided by the pupils themselves. In this summer's

GCSE examinations, 22.5 per cent gained five or more A to C passes, compared to 9 per cent the year before, and in September 73 pupils joined Dulwich High compared to 45 the previous year, a sign that local parents were regaining their faith in the school.

The school was assessed by Gus John, former director of education in the east London borough of Hackney, who found it being used as a dumping ground for expelled pupils from all over south London. He concluded that had a future provided pupils numbers did not fall further and that teaching and discipline were addressed.

Southwark council said: "There have been some improvements at the school but there are continued concerns about behaviour, attendance and the quality of teaching. Further evaluation is now being considered."

Finishing school in a class of its own

BY ALAN HAMILTON

A PEER's wife and a former Buckingham Palace butler are to open a school for butlers in Gloucestershire, teaching skills ranging from polishing silver to ordering wine on the Internet.

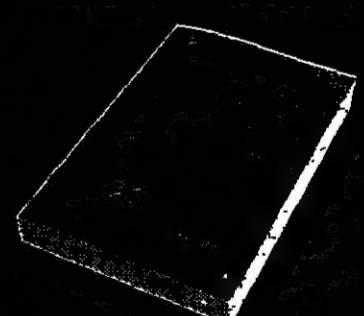
Student butlers, who can earn between £15,000 and £20,000 a year when fully trained, will have to pay £3,000 for the eight-week course being run by Sara Apsley, 32, a former beauty queen who is married to the son of Earl Bathurst, the heir to a 3,500-acre estate at Cirencester. Her business partner is Michael Shaw, 28, who worked for four years as a butler at the Palace.

Lady Apsley said yesterday that there was a healthy demand for butlers across a wide social spectrum. "Butlers are not a status symbol. They are a necessity if you have a certain lifestyle, such as a professional couple who are constantly travelling and need someone to keep things in order back home."

Trainers at the school, in a converted barn at Cirencester Park, where the Prince of Wales used to play polo, will be taught how to wait at table, decant wine, book holidays and order theatre tickets, as well as being made computer-literate.

Lady Apsley said the quality which made a good butler was the desire to look after people. And she might have added, the ability to lay hands on a ticket for England v South Africa at Twickenham on November 29.

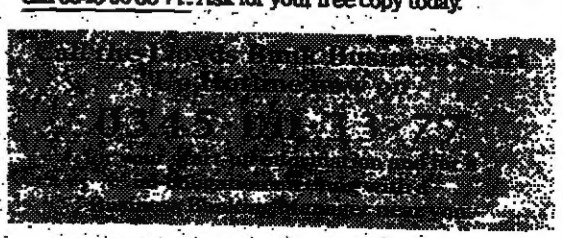
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Woodhenge find rivals stone circles



An illustration of how a wooden henge may have looked under construction. At Stanton Drew, where the only visible remains are later standing stones, right, there were nine concentric circles of oak pillars a metre in diameter

5,000-year-old temple 'start of British habit'

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

ARCHAEOLOGISTS have discovered traces of a huge and elaborate wooden temple dating back 5,000 years. Evidence shows that it was once one of the most important ceremonial sites in England, comparable in significance to Stonehenge.

Nine concentric rings of oak pillars once stood on the site at Stanton Drew in Somerset, surrounded by an enormous ditch. Each upright would have been up to a metre across and probably stood eight metres above the ground. All that can be seen today is a later stone circle. Such wooden henges are unique to Britain, and this one is twice as large as any of the other seven known.

The traces were found by archaeologists from English Heritage while they were carrying out a routine survey, using instruments that can detect small magnetic anomalies in the soil without disturbing the surface.

"To our surprise and delight what emerged was a timber temple of about 3000 BC," said Geoffrey Wainwright, chief archaeologist at English Heritage. "There is now no timber left - it would have decayed long ago. But the disturbance of the soil when the pits were dug to take the uprights shows clearly."

Andrew David, head of archaeometry at English Heritage, estimates that there

would have been between 400 and 500 oak uprights making up the nine rings. Each would have weighed five tons or so, nearly as much as the stones at Stonehenge.

Some wooden henges had a roof, but Dr Wainwright said Stanton Drew was far too large to roof over. He sees it as a local centre where people would come to ask the supernatural powers to provide

them with plentiful crops, or healthy herds of animals. "By this period, a social structure was developing, with distinct tribal areas. The temples were focal points for these tribes, where they gathered and held feasts. Other wooden henges contain masses of pig bones, along with decorated fragments of pottery. It looks as if the people deliberately broke the pots and scattered them around."

At the time, the population of Britain may have been as great as one million, according to Dr Wainwright. "It's a great mistake to think the people who built this place were rude, untutored, starving individuals. They were very sophisticated with successful agriculture and made beautiful items such as carved stone axes used for barter."

The technique used to find

the hidden rings makes use of the fact that any disturbance of soil tends to affect its magnetism. Until a few years ago, magnetometers sensitive enough to detect the anomalies at Stanton Drew did not exist. The existence of the post holes could have been found by conventional digging, but the site has not been dug in recent times.

The ring shows no evidence

of having been orientated with any astronomical purpose in mind. Nor is it known whether the uprights were carved or decorated, although Dr Wainwright believes that they were. "It is very hard to think of a structure like this with nine concentric circles not being carved in some way," he said. He suspects that the carving might have been like that on contemporary pottery, which

carries geometrical patterns and spiral motifs. "The patterns are quite stylised and relate to tribal territories, we believe. It would be very surprising if these motifs were not replicated on the timber uprights."

A complete excavation of the site is not planned, as it would be unlikely to provide much more information than the magnetic survey. A small dig may be conducted to confirm that the rings are indeed the remains of post holes, although there is little doubt that they are.

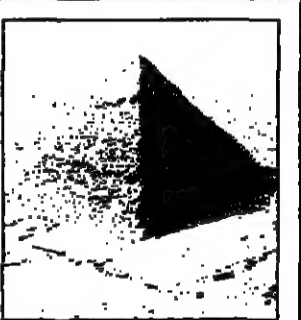
Sir Jocelyn Stevens, Chairman of English Heritage, said that Britain was apparently the only place in the ancient world where these extraordinary temples were built. "They were expressing their power by building these great rings, just as we are celebrating the Millennium by building a huge dome. This is clearly a very British habit, and it is 5,000 years old."

BUILDERS OF THE OAK TREE MARVEL BEAT GREAT PYRAMID BY FOUR CENTURIES

The Great Pyramid at Giza, right, was not even on the drawing board when the wooden henge at Stanton Drew was built. The building of the henge dates from about 3000 BC, while Cheops did not build the pyramid until 2590 BC. The builders of the henge were near-contemporaries of those who invented the wheel in Mesopotamia, and

the sail in Egypt, both in about 3500 BC. Bronze casting and the plough were known in the Middle East, but not in Britain. Writing had just been invented in Sumer. Stonehenge itself existed, but like the temple at Stanton Drew it was made of wood, not stone. The Stonehenge we know today did not assume its final form until 2000 BC.

The henge was built in much the same way as Stonehenge. Pits up to four metres deep were dug, and ramps arranged alongside them. The oak pillars were dragged and pushed until they overbalanced into the pits, and were then pulled upright. The wooden henges would have lasted for 500 to 400 years before needing replacement.



Bride eager to dance had Devil to pay

By Simon de Bruxelles

THE ancient mysteries of Stanton Drew are no secret to the landlord of the Druid's Arms. John Newcombe has three of the standing stones in his beer garden, the largest 12ft high.

"The local legend is that they were the guests at a wedding party who were turned to stone," he said. "The ones in my back garden are the bride, bridegroom and best man."

Every midsummer's eve, he says, a small group of strangely dressed people arrive to dance around the stones. "I don't know who they are but they aren't druids," he said. "They wear little caps and hats and carry things like Devil's forks."

"As long as they don't scare away my regulars I don't care what they get up to. They have these little candles like night-lights and I go out in the morning to clear them away but they never make any other mess."

According to the Robin Bush, the Somerset historian and member of Channel 4's Time Team, Stanton Drew means "Drew's town near the stones" and is mentioned in the Domes-

day Book. One of the stones has a hole in it and was once much larger. Mr Bush said: "It was called Hautville's Quoit, after a medieval lord. Sir John Hautville, whose tomb is in a church near by."

"The local legend was that he had thrown it there. It once stood in the middle of the road but over the years has been chipped away at, partly to get stone to put on the road itself."

The stones at Stanton Drew were considered to be the third most important prehistoric monument in Wessex after Stonehenge and Avebury. The 17th-century antiquary John Aubrey recorded the legend of the wedding party in 1664.

According to Aubrey, the fiddler went home before midnight to avoid playing on the Sabbath and the bride announced that she would "go to hell for another fiddler". Another fiddler appeared and played until dawn, when he revealed himself as the Devil and turned the assembled throng to stone.

No one believes that story any longer. Except, of course, on midsummer's eve.

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Blunkett launches skills taskforce

By Christine Buckley

DAVID BLUNKETT, the education and employment secretary, yesterday launched a taskforce that will harness government resources, employers and unions to tackle skill shortages in employment.

Mr Blunkett said that £150,000 would be spent on forging better vocational links between industry and universities and there would be steps to make school leavers better prepared for work.

The move follows growing concern over skill shortages among workers in a variety of industries. John Cridland, the CBI's head of human resources, said: "Skill shortages are certainly increasing as unemployment continues to fall. In the past this has led to constraints on business growth and to wage inflation. It is important, therefore, to avoid such constraints over the coming months."

Hague warns of EMU risk to millions of jobs

Businesses are told they could be trapped in a burning building with no exits. Jill Sherman reports

WILLIAM HAGUE launched a robust attack on plans for monetary union yesterday, warning that millions of jobs could be lost if Britain joined.

The Tory leader used his speech at the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) conference to spell out what he said were the dangers of early entry into a European single currency and to justify his party's decision to rule out supporting British membership for ten years.

The address, in stark contrast to Gordon Brown's dose of Euro-enthusiasm two hours earlier, portrayed a nightmare scenario similar to the debacle of Britain's exit from the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) in 1992. Millions of people up and down the country, Mr Hague said, then paid the highest price of all in lost jobs, repossessed homes and bankrupt small businesses. The same could happen now, he suggested. "Getting something like this wrong is not just an academic error or an argument at conference. It affects the jobs of millions. Unlike the ERM, the single

currency is for all time. British business could find itself trapped in a burning building with no exits."

Tomorrow Mr Hague faces a showdown with his own party over the ratification of the Amsterdam Treaty, which he will insist on opposing with a three-line whip.

Yesterday, in a speech which earned him a surprisingly warm reception, he made clear that he was determined to stick to the tough position on EMU agreed with the Shadow Cabinet three weeks ago. "The truth is that the supporters of British membership of a single currency tend to fall back on one central argument that overshadows all others. They say: 'It's going to happen and that we can't possibly be left out.' It is the argument used by every lemming throughout the centuries and it does not bear close scrutiny."

But in a veiled reference to trouble makers in his own party, such as Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke, he said he intended to ensure that the debate stopped being an argument about personalities, about who was on what side, "and start becoming an argument about what the actual issues are."

Mr Hague based his argument on the economic rather than political consequences of EMU. "Targeting" the exchange rate means prices and labour costs must be able to go down as well as up. To begin with, it looks easy. The stockmarket booms. Property companies make a fortune. The high street is packed. But the Government cannot raise interest rates to stop the boom overheating. So the boom has

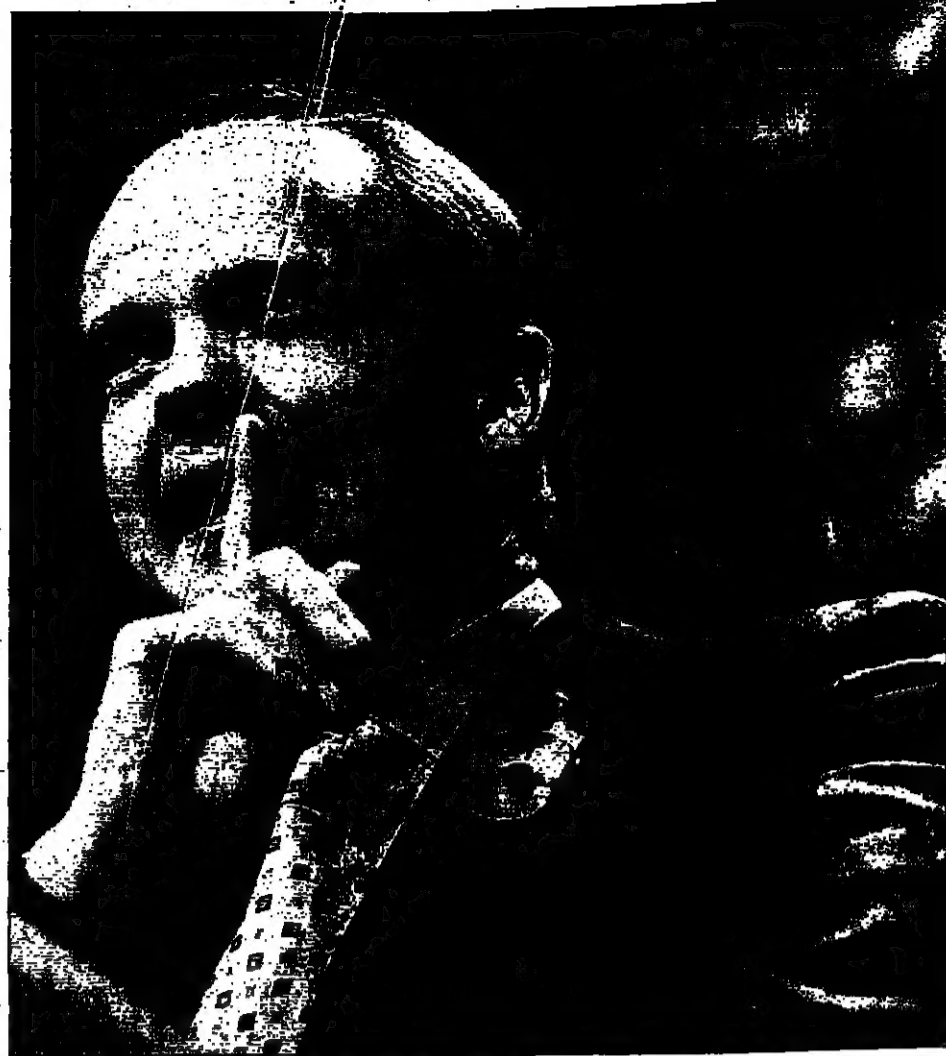
to be followed by a savage deflation to get prices back into line."

It would mean asking people to take a cut in wages and could mean higher corporation tax. "If the nightmare of our experience in the ERM teaches us anything it is not to steer by the siren voices of a supposed consensus, but to exercise the independent judgment of a cool head."

The single currency carried fundamental risks, he said. "For this reason the Conservative Party believes it is a mistake to commit this country in principle to joining a single currency. We oppose Britain joining a single currency during the lifetime of this Parliament and we intend to campaign against British membership of the single currency at the next election."

It was a clear, unambiguous position, he said. "It is also a pragmatic position based on what we believe to be in the vital interests of British companies and the British people."

Anatole Kaletsky, page 22
Leading article, page 23



William Hague, who was given a surprisingly warm reception by the CBI yesterday

Brown plans to encourage early use of the euro

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

THE Government is to bring forward legal measures to help British business to use the single currency from its launch in 1999. Encouraging companies to use the euro well before Britain joins monetary union will be seen by Eurosceptics as EMU entry by the back door.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, disclosed yesterday that he is considering new laws to make it easier for companies to issue shares in euros. Firms will also be able to hold euro bank accounts and pay taxes in the currency from 1999.

While Treasury aides denied that the aim would be shadowing the pound, the Chancellor went much further than his statement to the Commons two weeks ago, when he underlined the need to prepare for the euro. He made a pro-European speech designed to reassure the CBI that business need not lose out from Britain's decision to delay entry.

The Chancellor has been criticised by some businesses for ruling out Britain's entry into economic monetary union before the next election. But yesterday he disclosed that the committee preparing for the changeover to the euro will

consider amending the Companies Act to make it easier for British firms to issue shares in euros and to convert existing shares into euros.

Following the advisory group's advice, we will look at any other legislative steps the Government should take to make the euro easier for firms to use," Mr Brown said.

From 1999, the British banking system would be able to process payments in euros. "This should make it much easier and cheaper for banks to offer euro services to their UK customers," he said.

The Government would also work with banks to introduce an official seal of approval "so that firms and individuals could identify banks which offered reliable information about the euro, and allow customers to bank in euros without paying high charges".

Ministers would also work with accountancy firms, trade associations and others to make sure that they were provided with consistent information. Mr Brown announced that he had sent an information pack to the top 1000 British firms with details of business preparations for the euro.

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Businessmen in single currency showdown

Critics round on enthusiasts promoting a 'golden scenario'

By Philip Bassett and James Landale

BUSINESS leaders clashed yesterday on whether Britain should join the European single currency.

Barclays Bank warned the Confederation of British Industry's annual conference in Birmingham that Britain's participation would cut wages and jobs, while BMW said that to stay out would jeopardise future inward investment.

Sir Stanley Kalms, chairman of Dixons, attacked the single currency and accused the CBI of being in no position to speak for British business on the matter. He said that joining economic and monetary union would be the ultimate leap in the dark.

Sir Stanley, who yesterday led a group of businessmen writing to *The Times* to criticise the CBI for its declared support for the single currency, said that the "CBI hierarchy" was unrepresentative. He condemned the membership polling on EMU, saying: "I reject outright its methodology and conclusions."

He went on: "The CBI leadership has claimed the high ground in the argument to join EMU but it has failed to present the full picture. All we have is the golden scenario. The pro arguments are applauded, the cons are minimised, the debate is rarefied. On this subject the CBI has not earned the right to speak for British business. We are not at one."

Sir Stanley said that the single currency represented a huge stride towards a federal superstate. Increased regulation would impose further burdens on business, and EMU would hold back plans to enlarge the EU. "Under the present ill-thought-out criteria, the whole project may well prove unworkable. The single currency represents the ultimate leap in the dark."

Calling on business to "re-

sist the pressure to join the federalist bandwagon", he said that a single currency would be "irreversible, irrevocable and inalienable."

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays Bank, said that the single currency would lead to wage cuts and higher unemployment because without the buffer of exchange-rate fluctuations only labour markets would be able to take the consequences of economic adjustments. Insisting that he was not a Eurosceptic, he said: "I have been a Europhile all my life. But I am an EMU-sceptic. The most important thing is that EMU must not fail. It must be a success. It's a wonderful project, but it has

not merely because it is slightly inconvenient to stay out."

Mr Taylor said it was clear that only political integration could make monetary union work. It would require an increase in the EU budget and would not work without a federal taxation system.

In his CBI presidential speech, Sir Colin Marshall, the British Airways chairman, said that the CBI and the Government now stood "more or less shoulder-to-shoulder on the EMU question". He said he was disappointed at some critics of the CBI's position on monetary union. "What I object to is purposefully distorted argument which claims that the CBI is not truly representative of British business, as a whole, but merely serves the purpose of the major corporations and multinationals." He dismissed as ludicrous the suggestion that the CBI was motivated by political bias.

Niall Fitzgerald, Unilever chairman, said that Britain was in danger of falling into the same trap on EMU as it had done with the creation of the Common Market. Attacking the "superior, sceptical detachment" that had dominated British thinking on Europe for 50 years, he said: "Too many people in Britain have spent the last few years deluding themselves. Some hoping that, if we all shut our eyes tightly enough, the single currency would somehow go away. Others arrogantly assuming that, if Britain didn't like the idea, it just wouldn't happen."

Thankfully, we are rapidly being shaken out of our comfortable illusions. Monetary union is going to happen, on time, and with a majority — of EU countries as members."

Monetary union would bring the benefits of open

Let's trade with Europe, but let's not share the same bank account

fundamental flaws at the moment and needs tremendous reforms to make it work."

The fundamental difficulty was that while a single currency was obviously attractive, the single monetary policy it implied was harder to understand and potentially damaging. Britain faced making one of two mistakes — dragging its feet and falling behind the European endeavour, as it had done before, or linking sterling to the Mark, which had been a "complete disaster" twice in the past 12 years.

The CBI's own record on exchange-rate advice had been "lamentable", and of the single currency he said: "We should join it and only if, when and only when, it is in our clear interest to do so."



Wim Duisenberg of the European Monetary Institute, and (top right) Bernd Pischetsrieder of BMW encouraged Britain to join, but Sir Stanley Kalms of Dixons (centre right) and Martin Taylor of Barclays sounded strong warnings

competition, price transparency, keep inflation low, create a larger and more liquid capital market and be a vital step in building European competitiveness on a global scale.

He hit back at critics of the CBI such as William Hague and Sir Stanley, dismissing talk of "federal superstates, leaps in the dark and lemmings" as "colourful hyperbole, and asking business to look at the hard facts of the economic argument about EMU."

Bernd Pischetsrieder, chairman of BMW, which owns Rover, said that Britain's

failure to take part in EMU might threaten investment from overseas. "The existing investment will be secure. But any new inward investment from us and other companies is at risk."

Urging Britain to join, he made it clear that from January 1, 1999, BMW would start operating in euros, offering its trading partners the opportunity to do business in the currency. From 2002 BMW would operate in euros alone.

EMU would be a "big bang" for Britain, he conceded, but he added: "It could be a big crash, rather than a big bang,

if Britain joins too late."

Wim Duisenberg, president of the European Monetary Institute, welcomed the Government's support for EMU in principle, but said: "It is unfortunate that such an important country as the United Kingdom will not be among the founding fathers of the euro."

While the single currency debate in Britain often focused on "psychological and political aspects such as the so-called transfer of sovereignty", he said the Chancellor was right to make clear that EMU also needed to be assessed on

economic grounds. In that light, it was "essential" that UK economic policies remained aimed at further economic convergence in Europe.

Digby Jones, senior partner at Edge and Ellison and vice-chairman of the West Midlands CBI, called for any decision on EMU to be made in the interests of business. "I hope that for once we don't do the usual very British thing and kick and scream at the sidelines and then when it is suitable for everyone in the world but the British, in we go."

Edward Lambah-Stoate, partner at Grimley and chairman of the Avon CBI, expressed caution. "Do we really want to hitch our wagons to one of the slowest economies in the world? Let's see if Europe makes a success of the euro and then let's see if we should join. Let's trade with the rest of the world and Europe but let's not share the same bank account."

Anthony Cowgill, director of British Management Data Foundation, said: "The CBI has been wrong regularly on all major issues which have faced this country in recent years and it is wrong again now. The basic figures of the CBI survey don't reflect the serious concerns felt by many and are seriously misleading."

The CBI, he said, was letting the economic argument for entry cloud the risks and uncertainty. "The gut feeling of the country against giving up our democratic control of the country is right and should be supported," he said.

Colin Perry, chairman of LTE Scientific Ltd, and vice-chairman of the CBI's small businesses council, said: "The overwhelming opinion of small and medium sized businesses is to join EMU at the earliest practical date."

Jeremy Woolridge, managing director of BE Wedge Holdings Ltd, said he opposed Britain's membership of EMU. "Personally I would rather accept the view of the Spice Girls, who I believe are on record of being against a single currency. At least they weren't wrong on joining the ERM."

David Lovatt, chairman of Acme Maris Ltd, told Gordon Brown that his company was being damaged by the strength of sterling. "We are on a rollercoaster to EMU and I have to accept it. I would prefer us not to wait for 4 or 5 years before joining but to go in in the first band. I believe if we don't do that, we are going to find our pound will be highly valued and that damages me and my company."

Bill Good, managing director of Sterling Tubes, said that the Chancellor had a responsibility to prevent British industry feeling the "pain" from an overvalued pound. "We are being seriously undermined by the high level of the pound."

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The Louise Woodward judgment

A full text of Judge Hiller Zobel's

16-page ruling, based on his

"intensive, cool, calm reflection",

which was sent to worldwide news

agencies and posted on the Internet

THE law, John Adams told a Massachusetts jury while defending British citizens on trial for murder, is inflexible, inexorable, and deaf inextinguishable to the cries of the defendant, "deaf as an adder to the clamours of the populace". His words ring true, 227 years later.

Elected officials may consider popular urging and sway to public opinion polls. Judges must follow their oaths and do their duty, heedless of editorials, letters, telegrams, picketers, threats, petitions, panelists and talk shows. In this country, we do not administer justice by plebiscite.

A judge, in short, is a public servant who must follow his conscience, whether or not he counters the manifest wishes of those he serves; whether or not his decision seems a surrender to the prevalent demands.

1. Pertinent evidence
Reduced to its appropriately bare essentials, this case turns on diametrically opposed theories of ultimate causation. Both sides agreed that Matthew Eappen died from massive intra-cranial bleeding. The prosecution's experts attributed the haemorrhage to a combination of extraordinarily violent shaking and overpowering contact with a hard flat surface, all occurring some time on February 4, 1997; the defence experts ascribed the haemorrhage to a "re-bleed" in a clot formed about three weeks earlier following a hitherto undetected injury.

The Government buttressed the scientific evidence with testimony that the baby had been normal earlier in the day; that defendant had been the only adult in his presence throughout; and that she had admitted to police that she had been "a little rough" with him when putting him on a bed, bathing him, and placing him on the bathroom floor.

The defence relied for rejoinder entirely on the testimony of defendant herself, who denied handling the child in an inappropriately vigorous manner, although she admitted that perhaps she had "not been as gentle as I might have been" with Matthew.

Thus stripped of the jargon-filled overlay with which both sides filled the record, the issue for the jury's determination was simply: Did the Government prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Matthew Eappen died because defendant shook him and battered him against an unyielding object? Put another way: Did the defence evidence create a reasonable doubt that the death resulted from some other cause?

2. Motion for a required finding of not guilty
It is essential to understand that at no time was Defendant obliged to prove anything. The jurors were never required to choose between competing explanations. If the Government's theory failed to win them over, beyond a reasonable doubt, their inquiry was complete: the defence's inability (if inability it was) to explain Matthew's injuries and their cause would make no difference.

The law never, in any way, demanded of Defendant that she provide a jury-satisfying answer to any question, whether medical (how old was the fatal haemorrhage?) or physical (what had Defendant done to Matthew?). Thus a verdict of guilty could not properly result from the jury's merely rejecting the defence's physiological explanation as inadequate or Defendant's version of the events as implausible.

The jury could return a guilty verdict only if, in addition to an adverse assessment of the defence position, the jurors concluded, on all the evidence, that the prosecution's version was true, beyond a reasonable doubt.

To escape reasonable doubt in the present case, a jury would have to disbelieve all the evidence contradicting the Government's hypothesis. The jury would have to disbelieve that, in refusing to accept the combined conclusions of the defence witnesses.

Given the strength of the defence evidence, could the jury lawfully reject it? Most certainly. As judges always tell juries — as this judge told this jury — evidence is evidence if the jurors believe it; what they choose not to believe is not evidence.

Although application of this principle would mean that the jury spurned, as not worthy of belief, professional opinions emanating from a corps of highly-qualified, authoritative experts, such dismissal is unquestionably within the jury's province.

Now for purposes of deciding Defendant's motion for a required finding of not guilty, the law requires our assuming that the jury did indeed discard every scrap of evidence (testimonial, visual, direct or circumstantial) tending to cast doubt on the prosecution's

theory. Measuring the evidence by this strict standard, my duty inexorably mandates my denying the motion in its entirety.

Whatever my own views of the evidence might or might not be, I cannot, in deciding this motion, place any of them upon the scales.

3. Motion for a new trial
A judge may not grant a new trial merely because had he been the fact-finder, the case would have come out differently. In stating this truism, of course I do not suggest any disagreement with the verdict as delivered. In any event, the offence charged did not allow a test of the hypothesis, since the defendant in an indictment for first-degree murder cannot elect a jury-less trial.

The verdict, it seems to me, was not against the weight of the evidence. In reaching this conclusion, I have considered each of Defendant's specific contentions:

- a. The Government certainly should have discovered the so-called "skull-fracture photographs" earlier and given them to the defence well before the start of trial. The late disclosure, although inexcusable, did not prevent effective presentation of the evidence and its significance; that is the legal test. In this connection, it is worth noting that because the court denied the Commonwealth's proffer of rebuttal evidence, the recalled defence witness, Dr Michael Baden, offered the last word on the photographs and the conclusions to be drawn from them. Moreover, the defence was afforded ample opportunity to exploit the entire matter in closing argument.

- b. Whether a recent fracture would have demonstrated soft tissue swelling was a matter on which the experts disagreed; that does not equate with the right to a new trial.
- c. The "serum" evidence does not mandate a new trial. Absence of a contemporaneous transcript of Dr Jan Leestma's testimony — a normal occurrence in the Massachusetts Superior Court, and not to be held against the faithful, dedicated court reporter — necessitated either not responding to the jury's request or interrupting deliberations of a sequestered jury for the time necessary to transcribe the testimony (which had lasted for parts of two days).

The alternative, preparing a transcript of only selected portions, was not possible here, where counsel could not agree on the selections. Even if they had agreed, the delay would have held the jury idle an unacceptably long time.

Thus in accordance with the normal practice in Superior Court trials, the transcript was not read. Unless one or both of the parties make arrangements for daily transcripts, none is available. Here, defence had caused the transcription of Dr Joseph Madsen's testimony, but not Dr Leestma's. When the jury asked for the former, no reason existed why it should not be read; Defendant, in fact, agreed that the jury should receive it. The lack of a Leestma transcript was, from the defence standpoint, unfortunate.

However, here again, nothing prevented counsel, in final argument, from putting to the jurors his own recollection and urging them to draw the appropriate conclusion.

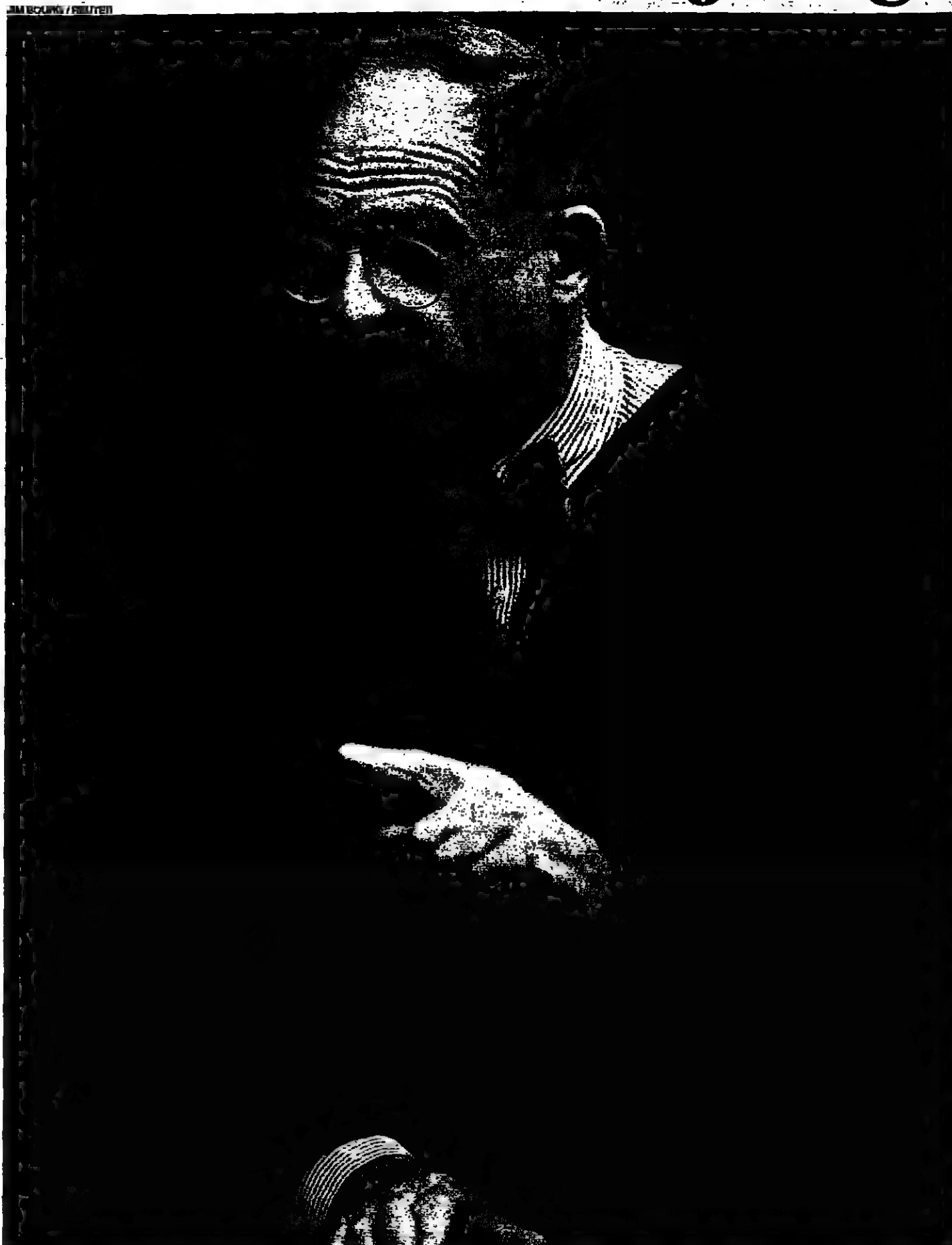
d. Dr Leestma's neuropathology findings came before the jury in full, illustrated detail. Absence of the dura was disputed at trial; the jury was entitled to believe that nothing substantial was gone. In this, the court's previous contrary findings, made in a different proceeding and context, do not control.

e. Dr Alisa Cean's testimony may have tended to prove the age of the haematoma; it did not, as Defendant argues, prove the point.

f. Similarly, the ophthalmological evidence as to the state of the retina is at best (from the defence standpoint) inconclusive.

g. Contrary to Defendant's contentions, the court plainly told the jury to confine its inquiry to the events of February 4 and told the jury that the Commonwealth was obliged to prove that Defendant acted intentionally (albeit that she lacked intent to kill).

h. Defendant incorrectly states that criminal liability for homicide depends on proof that brain death preceded withdrawal of life support. The test in this Commonwealth is not the order of the events, but whether or not Defen-



Judge Zobel: "The decision is guided by my reason, my conscience and the established precedents and principles of justice."

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Mystery of the drug that beats dieting

By IAN MURRAY
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A DRUG that reduces high cholesterol levels is better than only dieting but scientists do not understand why. The answer may be nothing to do with lowered cholesterol.

Researchers at Glasgow University have found that patients who took the drug Lipostat had 36 per cent fewer heart attacks than those on a controlled diet. Yet the drug reduced cholesterol by only 26 per cent, so the study concludes that it must have healthy side-effects.

The conclusions announced at the American Heart Association conference in Orlando, Florida, challenge the wisdom of advising people to control cholesterol by diet alone.

Chris Packard of the pathological biochemistry department at Glasgow, who led the research, said that the drug might work by reducing the stickiness of blood that caused clotting and blocked arteries, or it might strengthen the plaque on the cholesterol that forms inside arteries.

When the plaque ruptures, a large clot forms which blocks the artery and causes a stroke. By toughening the plaque, the drug reduces the risk of heart attacks.

Heart disease costs the NHS £1.6 billion a year, compared with £12 million spent on drugs to reduce cholesterol. The findings suggest that giving the drug to all patients with high levels would be healthier and cheaper.

In Britain 28 per cent of men and 32 per cent of women are considered to be well above safe limits of cholesterol.

Industry attacked over misleading labels on food

By ROBIN YOUNG

SHOPPERS are being duped by the food industry, according to reports published by a leading retailer and the Consumers' Association yesterday. Research commissioned by the Co-op showed that nine out of ten consumers believed that the law prevented misleading claims but many were hoodwinked by food labels.

The Consumers' Association said food labels were so misleading, inaccurate and incomplete that it was virtually impossible to compare products and make an informed choice. The Co-op said it had drawn up an industry code of practice to purge food labels of misleading names, illustrations and claims.

Sheila McKechnie, director of the association, at a press conference in London yesterday, welcomed that as a first step but called on the food industry to adopt a single code and to end anomalies in nutritional, health and ingredient claims on food labels.

She said: "I am willing to

support the Co-op code as a first piece of paper on the table but I am not prepared to spend the next three years in bureaucratic debate about what are scandalous dishonesties. The message to the food industry is: get on with it."

The association cited as a case of poor labelling the fact that Ovaltine Light low fat chocolate malted drink contained 6.6g of fat, while regular Ovaltine contained only 2g. The Halo Caramel Heaven bar claimed to be 85 per cent fat free when the 15 per cent fat it contained was "a significant amount". That Ross cod fishcakes also contain Alaskan pollock, blue whiting, haddock and hake in the small print of the ingredients list and that Freshbake traditional pasties are not fresh baked because they are frozen and not traditional because they contain monosodium glutamate and hydrolysed vegetable protein.

Food companies said their labelling complied fully with

regulations. The Co-op's research showed that nine-tenths of customers were duped by a product called mince and onions, in which the main ingredient was mechanically recovered chicken. Almost three quarters believed haddock fillets would mean single fish fillets. In fact, the product consisted of cuts from compressed blocks of fish.

Four-fifths of the customers surveyed were misled by photographs on the pack into thinking that a steak pie contained much more meat than it did, while two-thirds were taken in by claims such as "90 per cent fat free", when in fact 10 per cent was well above government guidelines for a "low fat" claim.

A Co-op report, *The Lie of the Label*, says that, as regards fish, there is no standard definition for the terms "fillet" or "steak". It says that in France companies are obliged to tell customers the proportions of key ingredients. Some companies selling products in the United Kingdom and France have two ingredient lists, one in French disclosing the percentages, while another, in English, withholds them.

The word "traditional" is widely abused, the report suggests, and names created to promote the product can dominate the packaging while the legal name, which actually tells customers what they are getting, may be in small print and sometimes on the back.

Pack designs, photographs and words can give a misleading impression of the product by using small plates or retouching photographs. The report warns against "weasel words" such as "traditional", "natural", "premium" and "wholesome" which, it says, sound good but mean little.

The Co-op had seven group discussions and 1,144 interviews (NOP).

Bananas appeal against fat of land

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

BRITONS are eating more fruit and vegetables, but are still consuming more fat than is good for them, according to the latest official figures.

The 1996 National Food Survey also shows that bananas are Britain's most popular fresh fruit for the second year running. Britons eat about two bananas a week compared with one apple.

"It is good news that people are eating more fruit and vegetables and less fat, but there is still a long way to go," Jeff Rooker, the Food Safety Minister at the Ministry of

Agriculture, said yesterday. The percentage of food energy derived from fat fell slightly to 39.7 per cent, still well above the 35 per cent maximum recommended by the Department of Health.

Fruit consumption rose by 3 per cent and vegetables (other than potatoes) by 4 per cent, according to the survey, which was based on food purchases by 8,000 households.

Expenditure on food and drink consumed at home averaged £16.46 per person per week last year, an increase of 5 per cent on 1995.



Fiona Harnwell wants compensation for her son Philip's "unplanned birth"

Boots sued over wrong Pill

A MOTHER is suing her local chemist for £10,350 compensation, claiming she conceived her second child after being given the wrong contraceptive pill.

Fiona Harnwell claims her son Philip, born 2½ years ago, was a surprise. She and her partner, Roger Burton, a builder, had planned to wait until their

daughter, Sarah, was settled in at school near their home in Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester, before having another child.

When she became pregnant she took her packet of pills to her GP. "It was the right packet but the wrong type of Pill inside it. I was shocked at first but we have a beautiful little boy and of

course I love him dearly. However, his arrival did upset our plans."

A spokeswoman for the chemist Boots said: "We have accepted that a dispensing error was made and the wrong contraceptive was supplied to her."

"But we have advised her solicitors that we dispute that this caused her pregnancy."

Childcare bills drive mothers to give up their jobs

By MARK HENDERSON

BUSINESSES are losing staff and money because British childcare is the dearest in Europe, a report says today.

More than a third of women who gave up a job after a baby said they did so to avoid crippling childcare bills, says the Daycare Trust. The typical cost to employers of an employee leaving was £10,000.

Families often had to spend more on childcare than food and housing, the report says. A family with a pre-school child and another needing care after school and during holidays spent nearly £6,000 a year on childcare, compared with £4,000 to house and feed the entire family.

A single parent with a two-year-old spent 28 per cent of earnings on daycare in Britain, 12 per cent in The Netherlands, 7 per cent in Sweden and nothing in France. Employers, local authorities and central government paid less than 10 per cent of Britain's childcare bill between them and there was one registered place for every nine children under eight years. Elsewhere in Europe, the state and employers were much more generous. The Government is expected to announce a national childcare strategy early next year.

Coleen Kelleher, director of the trust, said: "Every time a highly-trained member of staff quits to look after kids, a company loses out." J. Sainsbury budgets £5,000 to replace a section manager and £10,000 to replace a store manager, the report says. Midland Bank has cut the 70 per cent of women who left in 1988 after maternity leave by providing 900 nursery places.

Ms Kelleher said that tax should not be charged on nursery vouchers given by small businesses. "They can't be expected to run a nursery for two children, but could easily buy places at a joint one."

SSSHH.

A sophisticated diesel should be serene and not heard.

Mary Shelley's lost work may be published at last

A LEADING British publisher was yesterday hoping to negotiate the rights to a long-lost children's story by Mary Shelley that was recently discovered in Italy.

Pickering & Chatto wants to publish the 1820 tale, written two years after she published *Frankenstein*, within a reprint of its eight-volume *The Novels and Selected Works of Mary Shelley*, which came out last year. The firm, which publishes fine editions of key figures in the Romantic period, has contacted the Italian couple in Tuscany in whose private collection the manuscript was discovered after having lain there unnoticed for more than 150 years.

Its appearance in the archives of Cristina and Andrea Dazzi in the bicentennial year of the author's birth is fortuitous timing.

The story, entitled *Maurice, or The Fisher's Cot* and set on the Devon coast, features 39 pages in Mary Shelley's hand. It is a morality tale about a boy

A British firm is aiming to take up the rights for her "very pretty tale", writes Darya Alberge

who is stolen from his parents, runs away from his cruel stepfather, is adopted by an old fisherman and lives in a cottage on the coast. Lord Rees-Mogg, *The Times* columnist who is chairman of Pickering & Chatto, said yesterday: "I hope we shall be able to see it in some form or another to see that it is published."

The Dazis are descended from Lady Mountcashell, a close friend of Mary and her husband, the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, during their exile in Italy in the early 19th

century. Mary wrote it for Lady Mountcashell's 11-year-old daughter, Laura, known as Lauretta or Laurence.

Betty T. Bennett, consulting editor to the Pickering & Chatto edition, is in touch with Signora Dazzi and has advised the publishers to acquire the rights. There is no doubt of its authenticity. Scholars knew of the story's existence, both from references in Mary Shelley's journal and through a letter written by her father. In 1821 he wrote: "Your tale I think very pretty ... But it would not make more than a shilling book."

Professor Bennett, a distinguished professor of literature at the American University in Washington DC who has made Mary Shelley her life's work, said there was more Mary Shelley material on scholars' missing-lists including part of her journal and her early short story *Hate*. "Letters are showing up all the time," she said. "I just published in the Keats-Shelley



Cristina Dazzi with the manuscript. She and her family have been stunned by the discovery and interest in it

journal a long article with 24 new letters. They surface all the time."

The manuscript has been authenticated by Claire Tomalin, author of *Shelley and His World*. She said: "It's very thrilling, I must say. It is clearly touched by things one recognises as by Shelley. She had divided it into three parts. Although it was written for a child, it is written in a formal

way, like a tiny three-volume novel. Something that is characteristic of stories like *Frankenstein* is that it is told by several narrators. I was particularly struck by the melancholy of it."

Nora Crook, reader in English at Anglia Polytechnic University in Cambridge and editor of the eight-volume Pickering & Chatto edition, said yesterday: "It would be

wonderful if this could be put in the public domain as soon as possible in a scholarly way. This is a very exciting development. It's a work which might tell us a lot about Mary Shelley's development."

Roderick Cavallero, honorary treasurer of the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association, said he would like to get the maximum amount of publicity for the story. "But we

can't do anything without the consent of the Dazzi family. They've been stunned by the interest," he said. "Much of their extensive archive was sold to America some years ago. They didn't know of the existence of this cache of papers. They are worried as to what to do next. She's a bit shell-shocked at the moment, both by the discovery and the publicity."

NEWS IN BRIEF

BA makes all flights smoke-free

British Airways is to ban smoking on all flights from March 29 after overwhelming support from customers. BA has more than 7,000 flights each week, 95 per cent of which are non-smoking. The last routes to go non-smoking include Spain, Latin America, China, the Philippines and Bulgaria.

Suicide blame

The Court of Appeal ruled that the Metropolitan Police failed in its duty of care by letting a suicide risk hang himself in a police cell. The force will challenge the ruling in the Lords.

Ford fined

Ford was fined £10,000 at Cardiff Crown Court yesterday after a toxic liquid from its Bridgend engine plant seeped into the River Ewenny, an area of special scientific interest, killing thousands of fish.

Ships scrapped

Three British Navy warships—HMS Kent, HMS Hermione and HMS Jupiter—have been sold for scrap in India for £600,000 after a four-year attempt to sell them to foreign navies failed.

Appeal to blind

Court clerks have put advertisements in the Royal National Institute for the Blind's magazine after the Lord Chancellor's announcement that he wants to appoint blind or partially sighted magistrates.

Bedside light

Sunlight shining through a pair of spectacles on a bedside table started a fire on a duvet, which then gutted the main bedroom of a couple's detached house in Beeston, Nottinghamshire.

McEwan goes into final round for Whitbread award



McEwan: did not make shortlist for Booker

By Darya Alberge

WEEKS after Ian McEwan was snubbed by the Booker Prize judges, he has been shortlisted for the rival Whitbread award. The literary world was taken aback that his novel *Enduring Love* failed to make the final Booker list, and regards his new chance as natural justice.

However, publishers questioned whether judges for the Whitbread novel award—who include the writer Fay Weldon—had given him a backhanded compliment in their description of his work as "a great and powerful book with a gripping beginning".

One observer said: "What about the rest of it?" The novel tells of a young drifter who

becomes obsessed with a science journalist and starts stalking him after a chance meeting at the scene of a ballooning accident. Com-

menting on the judges' wording, another observer said: "I think this novel does have shortcomings that should disqualify it from winning. It's

overladen with scientific theory and touches of earnestness. The opening chapter is marvellous. He's often good at beginnings. It contains within

it the germ of a valid criticism." McEwan faces competition from two other Booker contenders, Jim Crace's rework-

ing of the Lerner Gospel story, *Quarantine*, and Bernard MacLaverty's story of a struggling musician, *Grace Notes*, as well as Geoff Nicholson's *Bleeding London*, and The *Unsolvable*. John Banville's novel of betrayal and adultery which was also seen as a serious Booker omission.

The author of the winning novel receives £2,000. The shortlists for the other categories were also announced yesterday. The winners will be announced on January 6, and the winner of the overall £21,000 prize announced on January 27. The total prize fund stands at £39,000, making it the largest literary prize in Britain. The overall winner receives £21,000.

FIRST NOVEL AWARD

Anne Haverly *One Day as a Tiger*
Mick Jackson *The Underground Man*
Pauline Melville *The Ventriloquist's Tale*
Ardashir Vakil *Beach Boy*
Phil Whitaker *Eclipse of the Sun*

POETRY AWARD

Simon Armitage *CloudCuckooland*
Ruth Fainlight *Sugar-Paper Blue*
Selima Hill *Violet*
Ted Hughes *Tales from Ovid*
Peter Redgrove *Assembling a Ghost*

BIOGRAPHY AWARD

Jessica Douglas-Horne *Violet: The Life and Loves of Violet Gordon Woodhouse*
Graham Robb *Victor Hugo*
Kate Summerscale *Queen of Whales Cay*
Stella Tillyard *Citizen Lord*
Jenny Uglow *Hogarth: A Life and a World*

CHILDREN'S AWARD

Melvyn Burgess *Junk*
Sharon Creech *Chasing Redbird*
Andrew Norris *Aquila*
Alan Temperley *Harry and the Wrinklies*

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The Rover 220DS Turbo.



RELAX

NEWS IN BRIEF

BA makes all flights smoke-free

British Airways is to be smoking on all flights from March 20 after one of its customers, a 70-year-old man, said he was allergic to smoke. BA has announced that it will make all its flights smoke-free from March 20. The airline says it has received a letter from the man, who is allergic to smoke, asking for a smoke-free flight. BA says it will make all its flights smoke-free from March 20. The airline says it has received a letter from the man, who is allergic to smoke, asking for a smoke-free flight.

Suicide blame

The Court of Appeal ruled that the Metropolitan Police failed in its duty of care by letting a suicide bomber walk free. The court said the police had a duty to protect the public from terrorism. The court said the police had a duty to protect the public from terrorism.

Ford fined

Ford was fined £10,000 for a town council's refusal to allow a new road. The council said the road was too narrow. The council said the road was too narrow.

Ships scrapped

Three British Navy ships have been sold for scrap. The ships were built in the 1960s. The ships were built in the 1960s.

Appeal to blind

Court clerks have been asked to help blind people. The court said the clerks should provide more help. The court said the clerks should provide more help.

Bedside light

Sunlight shining through a window can be a problem. The court said the window should be covered. The court said the window should be covered.

Congress vote ruins Clinton trade dreams

Bronwen Maddox on the President's humiliation by his own party

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday suffered a devastating setback to his foreign and economic policy when he failed to win authority from Congress to strike international trade deals.

After frantic lobbying in the early hours, the White House reluctantly postponed the Bill to renew the President's trade-negotiating authority, which had already been rescheduled three times over an increasingly tense weekend.

Mr Clinton said: "I'm disappointed. We were very close, but early this morning it became clear to me that we would not get the votes to pass the Bill." He said he was still optimistic that Congress would back him early next year, but Democrats gave a warning that the crucial congressional elections in 1998 would only heighten controversy over the Bill.

The defeat is an unexpected blow for President Clinton, who sees the promotion of free trade as one of his greatest successes. The creation of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), and the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) with Canada and Mexico, are among his main qualifications for a place in the history books.

But the stance of Congress leaves him now as the first President since Gerald Ford not to have "fast-track" authority. That power, which lapsed during Mr Clinton's first term, would allow him to negotiate trade pacts and put them to Congress for a "yes or no" vote without amendment. His plan to extend Nafta to Chile and other Latin American countries, and to press for more access to Japanese and Chinese markets, has been stalled.

The inability of the world's largest economic power to negotiate trade deals may also jeopardise the recently created

WTO, which has been hailed as one of the most important steps in lowering international trade barriers.

President Clinton's failure may scupper the organisation's efforts to open up trade in agriculture, and to put pressure on the European Union to dismantle the common agricultural policy.

Mr Clinton's defeat, which was compared in Washington to the collapse of his attempted healthcare reforms in 1993, was due mainly to opposition from within his own party, and shows the costs of his bid to drag the Democrats towards the political centre-ground. In 72 hours of round-the-clock lobbying, the White House tempted key congress-

men with special deals for Georgia peanuts, Florida oranges and Californian wine, but was unable to capture the dozen or so extra votes needed to win.

Many Democrats believe that the support of the unions, who bitterly oppose most trade pacts, will be more important than that of Mr Clinton in next year's elections. The 750,000-strong United Steelworkers of America yesterday thanked representatives "who stood by America's working families and forced a vote postponement".

Unions blame Nafta and other trade pacts for causing the loss of American jobs to neighbouring countries, and for driving down wages. Mr Clinton, who won vigorous support from many Republicans, yesterday gave a "profound word of thanks" to Newt Gingrich, the Speaker of the House, for his support. He could have had the backing of enough Republicans to carry the vote if he had agreed to cut US funding for international family planning efforts. But he said yesterday that "I believe it would have been wrong to compromise - what I believe and to link the two issues".

The White House plans to present the Bill again after the Christmas break. But support may be even more elusive, as congressional Democrats will be anxious to drum up money and support ahead of the November elections, and will be wary of running foul of the unions.

Flight alert: Hillary Clinton was preparing yesterday to take off again for a tour of Central Asia, nearly a day after her plane developed engine problems and returned to Andrews Air Force Base. The 25-year-old Boeing 707 jettisoned its fuel and returned to the base minutes after taking off when a sensor falsely indicated an engine fire. (APF)



Clinton: devastating setback to policy



Spider, a bronze 11ft high and 16ft across by French artist Louise Bourgeois, is one of 30 international sculptures on display in Cologne

Paul Simon musical hits troubled water

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

ANTI-CRIME protesters across America have called for a boycott of *The Capeman*, the first musical written for Broadway by Paul Simon.

The show is based on the true story of Salvador Agron, a Puerto Rican who stabbed two white teenagers to death in 1959. In jail, the murderer underwent a striking transformation, devoting his time to reading literature and writing poetry.

Agron, who was 18 when he killed the teenagers, was dubbed "The Capeman" by the New York press, after the black cape he wore during his gangland battles. That year, *West Side Story* had just played on Broadway - a tale of strife between young whites and Puerto Ricans - and the murders made many New Yorkers believe that the "Latino menace" was on their doorsteps. Agron received a

death sentence, which was commuted by Nelson Rockefeller, the state Governor.

Victims' rights groups claim that Mr Simon's musical glorifies a convicted murderer and will cause the families of those killed by Agron to relive the most painful moments of their lives.

Christine Baumhardt, a member of Parents of Murdered Children, which has 100,000 members, said: "Does Simon think that murder is something to sing and dance about? The musical will not only be victimising those families all over again, it will victimise the families of everyone who has ever been murdered."

Leaders of the group have issued a nationwide call on members to converge on the Marquis Theatre in Broadway when the show opens for previews on December 1. There, they will picket theatre-goers, urging them to turn back.

The group says that the families of the victims support the boycott campaign.

Mr Simon has denied that the musical "glorifies" either murder or Agron. In an interview with the *New York Post*, he said: "The play is different from a documentary. The play has a moral question at its core. That question is about the possibility or impossibility of redemption. It looks at how atonement is achieved."

The musician has revealed, however, that he consulted members of Parents of Murdered Children while writing the musical. He said: "I was about to drop the play after doing an interview with a woman from that organisation. At that time, my oldest son [Harper] was 16, and it set me to thinking, what would I do if something happened to him? I understand the feelings of the families better."



Agron: studied literature while in jail for murders

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Antilles (French)	51p	£1.02	50%	French Polynesia	67p	£1.35	50%	Norway	14p	38p	63%
Argentina	65p	£1.31	50%	Germany	14p	28p	50%	Panama	65p	£1.31	50%
Aruba	43p	£1.02	58%	Ghana	65p	£1.31	50%	Papua New Guinea	47p	£1.35	65%
Ascension Island	67p	£1.35	50%	Greenland	58p	£1.35	57%	Poland	19p	39p	51%
Australia	24p	49p	51%	Guadeloupe	51p	£1.02	50%	Romania	39p	79p	51%
Bahamas	29p	78p	62%	Guam	27p	£1.35	80%	Rwanda	67p	£1.35	50%
Bangladesh	66p	£1.33	50%	Guatemala	59p	£1.31	55%	Russia	39p	79p	51%
Belgium	14p	28p	50%	Honduras	65p	£1.31	50%	Saint Pierre	37p	78p	53%
Bermuda	32p	78p	59%	Hungary	19p	39p	51%	Salpén	60p	£1.36	56%
Bolivia	67p	£1.35	50%	India	60p	£1.20	50%	Serbia	40p	80p	50%
Botswana	65p	£1.31	50%	Japan	24p	77p	69%	Solomon Islands	67p	£1.35	50%
Brazil	69p	£1.31	50%	Jordan	63p	£1.26	50%	South Africa	39p	79p	51%
Brunei	54p	£1.08	50%	Korea (South)	54p	£1.08	50%	Sudan	50p	£1.31	62%
Burkina Faso	66p	£1.35	51%	Liberia	58p	£1.32	56%	Swaziland	40p	£1.31	69%
Cape Verde Islands	67p	£1.35	50%	Macao	53p	£1.08	51%	Sweden	14p	28p	50%
China	54p	£1.08	50%	Malawi	60p	£1.31	54%	Taiwan	46p	£1.08	57%
Colombia	67p	£1.35	50%	Malaysia	37p	77p	82%	Tanzania	65p	£1.31	50%
Comoros	65p	£1.31	50%	Maldives	67p	£1.35	50%	Turkey	33p	67p	51%
Cyprus	33p	67p	51%	Marshall Islands	80p	£1.35	55%	Tuvalu	67p	£1.35	50%
Denmark	14p	28p	50%	Martinique	26p	£1.02	74%	Vanuatu	67p	£1.35	50%
Diego Garcia	67p	£1.35	50%	Mauritania	67p	£1.35	50%	Venezuela	60p	£1.31	54%
Dominican Rep.	39p	78p	50%	Mauritius	65p	£1.31	50%	Western Samoa	67p	£1.35	50%
Ecuador	65p	£1.35	51%	Mexico	54p	£1.08	50%	Zaire	60p	£1.35	56%
El Salvador	60p	£1.31	54%	Micronesia	67p	£1.35	50%	Zambia	65p	£1.31	50%
Estonia	39p	79p	51%	Netherlands	14p	28p	50%	Zimbabwe	62p	£1.31	53%

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Netanyahu seeks fast track to peace



Binyamin Netanyahu begins a four-day visit to Britain on Thursday during which he meets Tony Blair and Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State

BINYAMIN NETANYAHU, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday unveiled plans to seek co-operation from Tony Blair to accelerate the timetable of peace talks with the Palestinians and to launch an international drive to prevent Iran becoming a nuclear power.

Speaking before a sensitive four-day visit to London starting on Thursday, he ruled out any compromise that would permit a Palestinian state and insisted there was nothing in the 1993 peace deal to prevent more Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

Mr Netanyahu pledged to impress upon his British counterpart that negotiations should begin now to reach a final agreement, rather than continuing the interim stages of the 1993 Oslo peace deal with its May 1999 deadline. "I think it is time to cut the Gordian knot, to get to the heart of the matter, a lasting settlement between Israel and the Palestinians," he said.

The Israeli leader dodged questions about whether he backed his Defence Minister, Yitzhak Mordechai, who recently voiced support for a conditional pre-emptive strike against Iran's nuclear installations, similar to that launched

Talking to British journalists, Israel's Prime Minister tells Christopher Walker that it is time to bypass the Oslo accord and reach agreement with the Palestinians

against the Iraqi Osirak reactor in 1981. He issued a warning that Britain would come into range of Iranian intercontinental ballistic missiles in a second stage after an attack on Israel, adding: "This will be a problem for all of us."

In a week in which the Knesset is commemorating the second anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, he extended an olive branch to the opposition Labour Party, but ruled out a government of national unity. "We are willing, prepared and able to move towards a final settlement with the Palestinians," he said. "I believe that ours is the only Government that can achieve it."

The briefing underlined the importance that Israel is attaching to Mr Netanyahu's first meeting with Mr Blair, and to hopes that Britain will play a more prominent role in Middle East peacemaking when it assumes the European Union presidency on January



Arafat is 'still calling for Israel's destruction'

Mr Netanyahu, 48, appeared unruffled by claims in the *Jewish Chronicle*, that British politicians and the Anglo-Jewish community are planning to give him a rough ride over his uncompromising stand on the peace process, and notably his expansion of Jewish settlements. The *Chronicle* disclosed that several leading British Jews had refused invitations to a

London dinner in his honour, some citing dissatisfaction with his policies.

The visit — which includes meetings with Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, and William Hague and Paddy Ashdown, the Conservative and Liberal Democrat leaders — has taken on added significance because President Clinton has signalled his disapproval of Mr Netanyahu's refusal to freeze settlements by so far failing to find time to meet him when he flies to the US from Britain.

Mr Netanyahu ridiculed criticism that he was flouting the Oslo accord with the Palestinians by continuing to build settlements, quoting Mr Rabin as saying that the interim peace deal made no reference to such expansion.

He attacked the Palestinians, led by Yassir Arafat, for repeatedly breaching key sections of the peace treaty and reneging on a pledge to remove that part of the Palestine

Liberation Organisation's covenant calling for Israel's destruction. "Israel is being asked to do things that are outside the Oslo accords in exchange for Palestinian compliance with obligations they took under them," he said.

He offered a blueprint for a final settlement that many Palestinians would find unacceptable. It would involve no redrawing of Jerusalem, no return to the 1967 boundaries before Israel conquered the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights, and no right of return for the millions of Palestinian refugees in the diaspora.

Mr Netanyahu also ruled out a Palestinian state that would have sufficient sovereignty to import powerful weapons to the hills above Tel Aviv, control airspace now used by Israeli war planes, or make diplomatic pacts with hostile states such as Iraq.

But the Israeli leader, who on Friday will meet Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, claimed that after last week's renewal of talks near Washington, Israel and the Palestinians were close to completing in accord enabling the Palestinian Authority to open an airport in the Gaza Strip.

Kissinger says state of Palestine is inevitable

FROM ROSS DUNN
IN JERUSALEM



Kissinger urged Israel to take giant strides

HENRY KISSINGER, the former American Secretary of State, said yesterday it is time for Israel to realise that a Palestinian state is inevitable.

His declaration came in a memorial lecture to mark the second anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Labour Prime Minister. Dr Kissinger told a packed auditorium in Tel Aviv: "The big decision has to be made. One cannot possibly hope there is a way around it."

He said that while he had advocated a gradual, "step-by-step" process to ending the Arab-Israeli conflict, he now believed it was time for giant strides.

Dr Kissinger emphasised that Israel should now enter into talks with America to ensure it would receive the best terms possible in return for agreeing to the ultimate concession of allowing the establishment of a Palestinian state. He said it was important to act, and not take for granted that the US would continue indefinitely its policy of attempting to help settle disputes in the Middle East.

Even now in America there is isolationism on the Left, unilateralism on the Right. Thirty per cent of the

country has never been outside its news reports from the outside world are incomprehensible to them. The objective of a Palestinian state was evident as long ago as 1978, when Menachem Begin, then Israeli Prime Minister, signed the Camp David accords. "I have argued ever since Prime Minister Begin agreed to the concept of autonomy that a Palestinian state was inevitable. Once the concept of autonomy had been granted, nothing would prevent the world from elevating the status of that autonomous unit."

Dr Kissinger said Israel was paying a heavy price for not deciding what was the final objective of peace negotiations. "The first, the essential, requirement for peace is knowing where you want to go. If you don't know the destination, you cannot get there, and each step, each concession, becomes harder."

He added that the international community would not stand for a new war.

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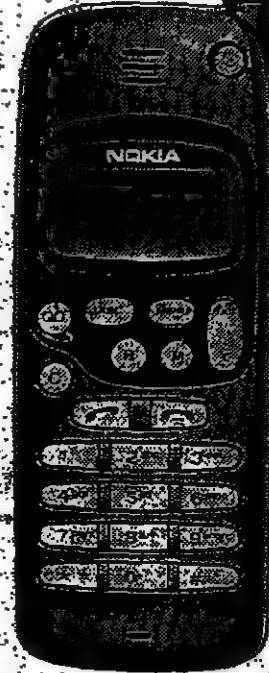
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مكتبة من الامم

Zimbabwe veterans run riot in court

FROM JAN RAATH
IN HARARE

ZIMBABWEAN former guerrillas ran riot in the Harare High Court yesterday, forcing a judicial inquiry to abandon hearings into a multimillion-dollar fraud of a fund meant for victims of the country's independence struggle.

About 300 war veterans danced, booed at the judge chairing the inquiry and delivered, from the now deserted bench, obscene denunciations against President Mugabe's Government. Riot police stationed in the court ordered the protesters to leave, but were ignored.

The demonstration appeared to be an attempt to force Judge Godfrey Chidyausiku to wind up the inquiry and prevent it from taking action against Hitler Hunzvi, who heads the War Veterans' Association. Evidence presented last week alleged that he had forged documents so that two of his relatives would receive large sums of money from the Government's War Victims' Compensation Fund.

Italians put folk hero on course for presidency

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

ITALY'S anti-corruption campaigner, Antonio Di Pietro, yesterday swept triumphantly into mainstream politics after winning a Senate by-election for the ruling centre-left coalition with an overwhelming majority.

There was immediate speculation that Signor Di Pietro, a former magistrate who inspired and led the 1992 "Clean Hands" campaign, might become Italy's first popularly elected President under proposed constitutional reforms.

Although Signor Di Pietro is a folk hero, his political views have long been enigmatic. He has often described himself as "a man of the Right", and is close to members of the "post-Fascist" Alleanza Nazionale. Yet last year he briefly joined the Government as Minister of Public Works, with the avowed aim of ensuring that



Di Pietro victorious

public contracts were not corruptly awarded.

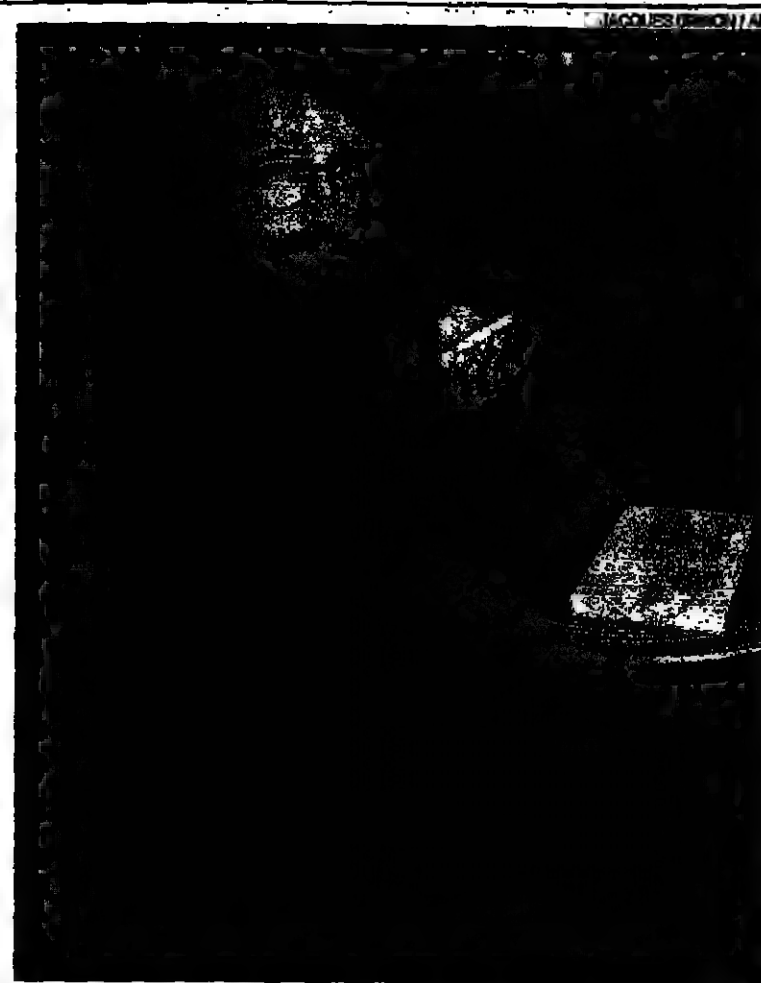
He said yesterday that he was "on the right wing of the Left", and that his aim was to help Romano Prodi, the Prime Minister, to create a broad-based Left which could rid itself of parliamentary dependence on the Communists.

Signor Di Pietro won 68 per cent of the vote in the by-

election for the Senate seat of Mugello, a rural area of central Tuscany. Giuliano Ferrara, the rumbustious candidate of the Centre Right, led by Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon — one of the most prominent targets of "Clean Hands" — received only 16 per cent.

Signor Ferrara, a former newspaper editor of Falstaffian girth and outspoken views, served in the short-lived Berlusconi Government of 1994. He admitted his tactic of mocking Signor Di Pietro's "peasant" origins had backfired, as had his assertions that the former magistrate was corrupt. *La Repubblica* said the result was "a triumph for Di Pietro and a resounding defeat for those who conducted a vendetta against him".

Signor Di Pietro, 47, rose from humble southern rural origins to head the unrelenting campaign by anti-corruption magistrates in Milan.



M. Rambaud at the Café de Flore in Paris yesterday. His book was inspired by Balzac's wish to write about the 1809 Battle of Essling.

Author scoops top prizes with 'Balzac' book

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

AFTER writing 25 books without winning a single major prize, the French author Patrick Rambaud made history yesterday by carrying off two of the most coveted awards in French literature for a novel that Honoré de Balzac always intended to write.

La Bataille (The Battle) was yesterday awarded the Prix Goncourt, the country's highest literary honour, less than a week after taking the Grand Prix for fiction from the Académie Française. The prizes have never before been won by the same book — a fictional account of the Napoleonic Battle of Essling.

The double award is also an oblique tribute to Balzac, the 19th-century author who often said he would write about the famously bloody encounter in 1809, but never did. "I am setting out to lay bare all the horrors, all the beauties, of the battlefield," Balzac once wrote in a letter. "He never wrote a line, only a few notes," M. Rambaud said yesterday. The Battle of Essling, named after an Austrian village outside Vienna, was the first military engagement Napoleon did not win — and the moment his empire began to crumble. When it was over, Balzac was ten.

M. Rambaud said yesterday: "It was neither a victory nor a defeat. It was carnage. Two ferocious days when nobody wanted to fight, but which left 40,000 bodies on the field. *La Bataille* is a prototype of all battles."

Accused former aide of Yeltsin flees sick bed

FROM ROSIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

A FORMER close associate of President Yeltsin, being investigated for bribery and corruption, has slipped out of the country, purportedly to seek medical treatment in France.

Doctors in St Petersburg said yesterday that Anatoli Sobchak, the city's former reformist Mayor and a strong ally of Mr Yeltsin during the later part of perestroika, flew to Paris last week, a month after being taken to hospital with heart trouble.

"Sobchak discharged himself from the St Petersburg Military Academy heart surgery clinic on November 7 and has flown to Paris for further treatment at an American hospital," Gennadi Kimbulava, deputy head of the clinic, said yesterday. Mr Sobchak had not wished to cause trouble for medical staff in St Petersburg, because his illness had become a matter of political speculation.

The initial interrogation of Mr Sobchak, 60, had to be cut short last month when he was taken into intensive care after apparently suffering a heart attack during questioning by prosecutors in St Petersburg. He is accused of accepting bribes — allegedly amounting to tens of thousands of pounds — and using his office as Mayor, which he held from 1991 until last year, to procure flats for friends and relatives. He was also being asked about an incident in 1993, when he was reported to have been detained at Heathrow airport with \$1 million (£500,000) in cash. President Yeltsin served notice earlier

this year, of a crackdown against corruption among government officials, giving a warning that no one would be exempt. But so far no major personalities have been brought to book.

The only two prominent people to have been investigated are Mr Sobchak and Sergei Stankevich, another former Yeltsin ally accused of taking bribes while working as deputy Mayor of Moscow. Mr Stankevich was detained in the summer in Poland, where extradition proceedings are under way.

No formal charges have been laid against Mr Sobchak, a lawyer who rose to prominence in the late 1980s when he and Mr Yeltsin were among the leaders of the main reformist group in the Congress of People's Deputies, the last Soviet parliament under former President Gorbachev. As Mayor of St Petersburg, Mr Sobchak was praised in the West for overseeing a rapid privatisation programme that became a national model. But his popularity swiftly declined amid growing rumours of corruption in his administration. Last year, he was defeated in his bid for re-election by his deputy, Vladimir Yakovlev.

Mr Sobchak has denied all allegations against him and says he is a victim of political persecution. He has also rejected the claim that his heart trouble was faked in order to avoid further questioning. But his latest move is certain to fuel allegations by his critics.

6 In 1993, he was allegedly detained at Heathrow airport with \$1 million

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PETER TRÄVNER

Piers Paul Read: "I felt as if instead of dining out the night before, I had been beaten black and blue."

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Spice without Svengali

The Spice Girls' decision to sack their manager is a ritual as old as the pop industry. But what will be the effects of their display of girl power on the future of the group? **Mike Pattenden** examines the tense relationship between artists and their managers

While the world teeters on its axis following the news that the Spice Girls have split with their manager, Simon Fuller, many will see merely a ritual as old as the pop music industry itself: the clash for control between artist and management. Ever since a fairground huckster called Colonel Tom Parker saw dollar signs in the young Elvis Presley, managers have reserved the right to run not just artists' careers, but also their lives.

Colonel Parker, the archetypal showman Svengali, and Simon Fuller, the low-profile businessman, are poles apart in their style — and the music industry of the late Nineties is a very different place to the nascent one of the 1950s — but the factors involved are not dissimilar. A manager controls an artist, making decisions that directly affect the artist's career and dictate how much money he or she earns. What has changed over the years is the balance of the relationship. These days, artists have a far sharper idea of where they are going, what they want and how to attain it. They are far more likely to strike out on their own if it fails to materialise, and with showbiz lawyers always keen to fight a clause, the ground is a great deal more even.

The past year has seen a number of public rifts between young artists, traditionally assumed to have little idea of what they are doing, and their mentors. The former members of Take That were quick to exert their individualism after the band split up. Both Robbie Williams and Gary Barlow rapidly parted company with Nigel Martin-Smith, who had controlled their careers with military precision for six years.

Barlow was always destined for a solo career, and Martin-Smith had always intended to use the band as a springboard for that career. But when the moment came, Barlow chose to go his own way. "Nigel earned his reputation as a Svengali manager, but the credit should go to the band because we were the ones to take the music to a different domain and make the shows different," recalls Barlow.

Martin-Smith earned a reputation as a ruthless man, not afraid to exert his control or vent his spleen on those around him, an approach that made Barlow, essentially a warm and generous person, uncomfortable. Barlow, though, is also highly ambitious. He wanted to work with top American songwriters and producers, and a manager famous for throwing his weight around was not going to be able to deliver that.

'If they want to go while the party's still rocking, that's great'

prepared to back up his claims with his fists but he only ever threw his weight around to further the band's cause and he made them a fortune in the process.

Two of the biggest rock acts in the world can point to unbroken relationships that favour the artist rather than the manager: U2 and Oasis. Oasis is the only band represented by Iginia Management, which has managed them since the beginning. The company's almost anonymous figurehead, Marcus Russell, is respected for his ability to cut deals while massaging the egos of his often volatile charges. Significantly, while Oasis enjoy a "rock 'n' roll reputation" (ie, they are supposed not to care about money), Noel Gallagher knows 44-year-old Russell will move quickly when their interests are threatened.

Thus, when merchandisers attempt to chisel in on the band or radio stations break embargoes, punishment is swift. A recent unauthorised attempt to post Oasis lyrics on the Internet was threatened with immediate reprisals.

Russell, however, would never dream of dictating what Oasis could or could not say. He does not need to control them like that — the worse their behaviour, the more the press loves it. However, for teenage acts, presentation and media relations are all. A fall from grace could signify the end of the band.

When East 17 singer Brian Harvey made his infamous comments about Ecstasy and failed to turn up for an engagement on TFI Friday, the band's manager, Tom Watkins, appeared to exert ultimate control of the band: the right to hire and fire. He refused to work with Harvey, or with the band unless they fired him. The confrontation precipitated the departure of song-writer Tony Mortimer and the severing of Watkins's links with the group.

"Frankly, Brian Harvey had the manners of a pig. I loathed and detested his behaviour. He was disgusting," says Watkins.

Did he push the band too far by trying to govern their morality? "I've never operated that sort of regime," he replies. "I'm not their headmaster, their parent or their lover, and I'm certainly not going to be their whipping boy. The door



Ginger Spice (Geri Halliwell) with her arm around Simon Fuller at the Ivor Novello awards earlier this year. There are rumours that his recent sacking followed rows between the two

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Did he push the band too far by trying to govern their morality? "I've never operated that sort of regime," he replies. "I'm not their headmaster, their parent or their lover, and I'm certainly not going to be their whipping boy. The door

is always open here, you can walk in or out."

In fact, Watkins admits to expecting a five-year relationship with his acts before the cracks begin to show. "You're dealing with young people, often very thick ones in the pop world. People with no business acumen or grounding in life," he says contemptuously.

"They tend to think they'll make it without the help of the manager so they can quickly save themselves 20 per cent by dumping them. It's a huge mistake and history demonstrates that."

Rumours are already flying concerning the reasoning behind the Spice Girls' decision to fire Fuller. Some reports say Fuller was sacked after a series of rows with Ginger Spice, Geri Halliwell, including a confrontation over an alleged "close relationship" with

drive and business nous, made a mistake?

"I don't know whether it's an error, it's not for me to say," says Watkins. "If they want to leave while the party's still rocking, that's great. But if it's going to disintegrate into one of them going off with Simon Fuller, another doing something else, then that's sad."

Rumours are already flying concerning the reasoning behind the Spice Girls' decision to fire Fuller. Some reports say Fuller was sacked after a series of rows with Ginger Spice, Geri Halliwell, including a confrontation over an alleged "close relationship" with

So have the Spice Girls, who have already made £35 million largely through Simon Fuller's

Baby Spice, Emma Bunton. And first-week sales for the album *Spiceworld* were poor when compared with those of Oasis or Prodigy but then, musically, the band are no longer there to be discovered. They are about marketing, and in these terms they are unparalleled, having cut deals to advertise Pepsi, Walkers Crisps and Impulse Deodorant through the efforts of Fuller. Money, then, would appear to be off the agenda.

More likely, the split was about power and who, ultimately, runs the Spice Girls. The five have shown from the start, when they dispensed with the services of Bob and Chris Herbert, the management team that first put them together, that they are willing to exert their famous brand of girl power on anyone seeking to run them rather than their careers.

Whether they have taken control of their destiny so wisely this time remains to be seen, but early suggestions are that they are looking for a new team. To do the job themselves, as has been suggested, would only precipitate the end.

Management is there so that someone can deal with the day-to-day business, relieve the hassle, act as a buffer zone — and which Spice Girl is going to take responsibility for that, and thus be seen to run the band? The truth is, artists can survive but rarely thrive without management. More likely, new, more pliable hands will be found to keep things running smoothly while stage three is hatched: an album with a solo slot or possibly even five solo projects.

However, for a band without an obvious front person or song writer — 19 Management, incidentally, looks after the Spice Girls' song-writing teams, Stannard and Rowe, and Absolute — that one could cause a few headaches.

For the time being, the Spice Girls are still a gold mine, though whether the mine will remain productive without Simon Fuller in charge remains to be seen.



Robbie Williams (left) and Gary Barlow (right) rapidly parted company with their manager after Take That split, while Liam and Noel Gallagher have stayed loyal to their mentor

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Meltdown of our plastic age

Anna Somers Cocks
on the problems of
modern conservatism



PARTY PRIZ

How Formula One got both its money and its money back

Tony Blair is now feeling for the first time what it is like to be in the middle of major allegations of sleaze. Earlier this week the problem was a small patch of mire concerning relations between his public health minister, Tessa Jowell, and the exemption of motor racing from the ban on tobacco sponsorship. The link was Ms Jowell's husband, David Mills, who had worked for a Formula One team. The charge seemed always unfair since Ms Jowell had been arguing against her husband's interests and was overruled by Downing Street. But who ever said that politics was fair? The trouble seemed set to pass.

Now a much larger lump of mud stands in Labour's way. It transpires that the Labour Party may have been given £15 million for its election campaign by the head of Formula One, Bernie Ecclestone. Tony Blair's decision to support the motor racing lobby and its tobacco sponsors against the interests of public health and the spirit of his manifesto was always an odd one. The arguments of Mr Ecclestone about jobs in the racing industry did not seem to have been aggressively tested. How much did his contribution help his cause?

In Opposition Labour always argued that the Conservatives were in the pocket of those same tobacco companies who are responsible for so much of Mr Ecclestone's business success. Indeed, the Tories vetoed an attempt to secure a European directive against tobacco sponsorship. Now it is known that Mr Ecclestone was a massive supporter of them too, giving some £8-10 million, according to party sources.

His generosity to both parties must dwarf that of any other donor. It is impossible, however, to say for certain. The Tories have never published either the names of their donors or the amounts given — although William Hague now plans, like Labour, to reveal the names behind all donations of more than £5,000. This level of transparency is also deceptive. The difference between

£5,000 and £8-10 million is critical. The former might buy a place at a couple of fundraising dinners attended by Cabinet ministers. The latter could bankroll a party through most of an election campaign.

Labour has now undertaken to pay back Mr Ecclestone's money, on the advice of Sir Patrick Neill, Lord Nolan's successor. He found that the party had breached no rules, but that "in order to avoid the appearance of undue influence over policy", the money should be returned. The Conservatives, who can no longer help Mr Ecclestone, may feel safer in keeping their money. They should examine their consciences too.

Sir Patrick may be right that no rules have been broken. But this merely shows the inadequacy of the rules. Not only the names of party donors but the amounts of their donations should be disclosed. Otherwise voters will have no idea of how beholden a political party might feel to its supporters.

Mr Ecclestone's munificence may have had not the slightest effect on Mr Blair's decision to exempt Formula One. But the arguments that his ministers have used to support the policy were hardly persuasive. It was claimed, for instance, that 50,000 British jobs depended on Formula One. Actually, that figure represents total employment in the motor sport industry, of which Formula One accounts for just 8,000.

Even then, it seems naive to believe that these jobs would go if motor racing moved out of the European Union. Just one Grand Prix takes place in Britain. Yet this country dominates the sport. Formula One teams will continue to use the most successful companies, and these will continue to be British.

If the Labour Party used to be instinctively anti-business, new Labour is in danger of succumbing to the opposite kneejerk reaction. Business will argue for what will maximise its profits; and this does not always equate with the national interest. Mr Ecclestone has both won his way and got his money back. He must be delighted.

SCEPTICS AT THE CBI

Brown and Barclays move in parallel universes

Despite talk last week of a "ten-year rift" between the Confederation of British Industry and the Conservative Party, William Hague won a surprisingly warm reception from the CBI conference yesterday. He told them what many did not want to hear; but he did so with thoughtfulness and cogency. This was not the speech of an anti-European, but of a modern sceptic.

With cool rationality, Mr Hague warned his audience of the dangers to their own businesses of signing up for a single currency. Yes, transaction costs would be reduced and transparency increased. But did British businesses really want to pay 45 per cent corporation tax, as in Germany, rather than the 31 per cent they pay here? The European Commission has already complained about the "harmful tax competition" coming from Britain. Once in EMU, the Government would find it hard to fight imposed uniformity on tax rates.

Mr Hague also reminded CBI members of how they suffered when the pound was in the ERM. Being stuck in a single currency would be like being "trapped in a burning building with no exits". His economic analysis took his listeners through the adverse impact on demand and jobs that EMU could cause. Sensibly, he appealed to their selfish instincts as business leaders not to say wider, more abstract sense of democratic duty.

Yesterday's debate proved that CBI members are by no means unanimous in their support for EMU. So did the letter to *The Times* from the heads of 13 large companies ranging from Lorrho to Associated British Foods, Jardine Matheson to Kwik Save.

Perhaps the most persuasive contribution came from Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays Bank. "I have been a Europhile all my life. But I am an EMU-sceptic," he said, before going on to explain that only political integration and a federal taxation system could make EMU work. Without an exchange rate to take the strain of economic adjustments, all the burden would fall on the labour market, with wage cuts and higher unemployment the result.

Did Gordon Brown heed any of this impeccable economic logic? The Chancellor could have been living in a parallel universe. His comparison of EMU with the single market in terms of loss of economic sovereignty was spurious. Regulations governing the contents of a bottle of beer can hardly be equated with irreversible loss of control over the entire economy.

If the Chancellor is not to be allowed to join EMU in this Parliament, he seems determined instead to bring it in by stealth. His preparations aim to encourage British companies to do business in euros, to issue shares, pay taxes, file accounts and have bank accounts in the currency. He intends to flood schools and libraries with pro-EMU propaganda. If he has his way, by the time of the referendum the momentum will be unstoppable.

It is of course wise for businesses and Government to prepare for EMU; Britain will be affected outside as well as in. But there is all the difference in the world between being prepared and being frog-marched. Mr Brown compared EMU to decolonisation: he should be reminded that membership is not a foregone conclusion.

INTERESTS OF JUSTICE

Judge Zobel has rightly exercised his discretion

The debate about the extent of Louise Woodward's complicity in the events surrounding the death of Matthew Eappen will continue even after the dramatic events in a Boston courtroom yesterday. In truth it is almost impossible to know what actually happened on February 4. The sentence finally handed down will doubtless be subject to further legal argument. Ten days ago, at the time of much outrage at the initial verdict, *The Times* affirmed its faith in the Massachusetts legal system and stated with confidence that this sad affair was not over. In retrospect both sentiments still appear accurate.

Judge Hiller Zobel has spent the better part of a week constructing his opinion. The state law allowed him considerable discretion in these matters, although on the implicit understanding that a jury's decision should not be altered often or lightly. There were many in Britain who hoped, understandably, that he might quash the charge outright or order a retrial. Those courses were always highly unlikely.

In the circumstances, the judge travelled as far as he could have. He knew that the original jury had been placed in an impossible situation. The 12 had been asked to choose between absolute guilt and total innocence. Those who had sat through this case thought the truth sat somewhere between the two in an uncomfortably substantial grey area. Judge Zobel offered himself the option of involuntary manslaughter which had been denied — by the

deliberate decision of prosecution and defence alike — to the jury. He came to the reasoned assessment that this is what they would have chosen. He offered his reassessment, as he said, in the interests of justice.

In his opinion the judge did his best to unpack the evidence. He argued that the death of Matthew Eappen was "not characterised by malice in the legal sense" but instead was the result of "confusion, inexperience, frustration and some anger". That still implies that some responsibility should be placed with Miss Woodward. This view will be resisted by her supporters. They will have further opportunities to outline her innocence. The law of Massachusetts offers many avenues of appeal.

Judge Zobel could not, however, ignore the original views of the jurors entirely. When put in a corner they preferred too much guilt to too little. In reaching this view they rejected a large chunk of alternative interpretation put forward by the various defence lawyers. That was their right and it should be respected. The injuries suffered by Matthew Eappen require explanation. The outcome to this trial reached last night — provisional as it remains — will strike many, perhaps most, as still unsatisfactory. But it is much better than it looked ten days ago. Judge Zobel deemed that the mistakes of prosecution and defence alike should not have led to an excessive murder conviction. Miss Woodward can now seek to clear her name from a position of greater comfort.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Peaslington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Is topping-up the Oxbridge answer?

From Professor Sir Eric Ash, FRS, FENG

Sir, Tutorials work better than lectures — a fact to which any one who has served in academia can testify. Unhappily it is an expensive form of education, which as the major modality of teaching, Oxbridge alone has been able to afford.

One need only ask the question of whether it is equitable to support Oxbridge in the continuation of this system from the public purse to see that the answer has to be an emphatic no. As you rightly suggest in your leading article ("Quest for quality", November 10), to permit Oxbridge to charge the appropriate top-up fee seems a reasonable compromise — and one which would not, I believe, be resented by other universities.

This solution does, however, raise the fear that it might further decrease the number of Oxbridge students coming from poorer families. I would suggest that this problem could be overcome by setting up a private loan scheme, specifically to cover the top-up fees. The banks would relish the chance. Oxbridge could provide a guarantee for the repayment of these loans.

Since on the whole Oxbridge graduates tend to be employable, this guarantee would be affordable, and ensure that the terms for the loan would be benign.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC A. ASH,
11 Ripplevale Grove, NI,
November 10.

From Professor Emeritus George Wedell

Sir, Sir John Kingman (letter, November 7) is quite right. Not only do many universities other than Oxford and Cambridge maintain international standards in research and teaching without the grants provided for those universities, but they also undertake important developments in new areas of study. They could well use a national academic development fund endowed by the transfer of the £35 million at present allocated to Oxbridge college fees.

The European Institute for the Media, a research centre of international stature founded in the University of Manchester in 1983, was lost to this country in 1992 because the £750,000 per annum needed for its development could only be found abroad.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE WEDDELL,
18 Cranmer Road,
Manchester 20,
November 9.

From Lord Rix, Chancellor of the University of East London

Sir, It is perhaps ironic that next Wednesday when, as Simon Jenkins puts it, "the schools of Oxbridge will descend en masse on the House of Lords to protest at the threat to their subsidies" ("Tough on the top-up", November 8), I shall be performing my duties as the Chancellor of this university. I shall be awarding degrees to about 600 graduates at the third of six similar congregations this autumn.

There are approximately 12,000 students at the UEL. They come from all parts of society and many different backgrounds. Over 1,000 are from countries outside the EU. Ethnic minority groups form a majority. Over 50 per cent are women, more than 500 of them are disabled and — perhaps most exciting of all — two-thirds of them are classed as "mature".

For all these non-traditional students, UEL is a remarkable seat of higher education. To me, their existence is evidence that, should Oxford and Cambridge lose their inequitable subsidy, the scholarships and bursaries which would then be distributed among all university students would lead to a truly egalitarian society.

Yours etc,
BRIAN RIX,
Chancellor,
University of East London,
Langridge Road, Dagenham, Essex,
November 9.

From Professor Andrew Palmer, FRS, FENG

Sir, Many academics will continue to support the present system of payment of college fees, because it costs them nothing to do so, and because it enables them to avoid the hard choices that confront anyone else who has the responsibility of spending public money.

The right strategy is to allow any university to charge top-up fees if it wishes to do so, and to allow Cambridge and Oxford Universities to transfer to their colleges whatever amounts they think fit.

If the colleges have an essential function in the continuing excellence of those universities, the transfers will no doubt be very large.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW PALMER,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Engineering,
Trumpington Street, Cambridge,
November 10.

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

'No win, no fee' proposal no solution to legal aid reform

From Mr D. P. Marchessini

Sir, Writing as an American lawyer, I strongly support the opposition to contingency fees for civil litigation expressed by Mr Stephen Nathan, QC (letter, November 3). However, I do so for opposite reasons.

The problem is not that lawyer and client will have different interests, but that they will have the same interest. The British common law system is based on the concept that both attorneys act as officers of the court, and although it is their duty to protect their client's interests vigorously, it is also their duty to see that justice is done.

Contingency fees change the basic relationship of lawyer and client to one of two partners, both trying to obtain money from the court (and frequently it is the attorney who receives the lion's share).

Such a relationship makes it quite unrealistic to expect attorneys to act as officers of the court. Indeed, we have the example of the United States, where for many years we have seen countless lawyers behaving unethically.

The answer is not to chuck out the legal aid system, but rather to control it better and to make it more responsible. This could be done by restricting it to cases which have a substantial chance of success, and at the same time eliminating cases which the majority of the population would consider trivial or absurd or politically motivated.

Yours faithfully,
D. P. MARCHESSINI,
Marchessini & Co Ltd,
Kingsbury House,
15/17 King Street, St James's, SW1,
November 3.

From Mr Stanley Best

Sir, Like Mr Stephen Nathan, QC, I deplore this Government's intention to discontinue legal aid even further than its predecessor did.

In criminal cases the legal aid fees for the Bar have been savagely cut as

from January 1, 1997. A determining officer has pointed out to me that work in one particular case prior to the new scheme, attracting total fees of £2,339.45 and covering all preparation and a trial of four days — with a fifth spent on pleas, directions for trial, an inspection of the *locus in quo* and a conference with the client — would now be rewarded by a total of £1,259.

Why? In great part because no longer is counsel paid for any written advice, the drafting of the defendant's statement of case (a vital document required to be served on the prosecution) or conferences with the client. He may thus be expected either to do over £1,000 worth of work for nothing or to see his client suffer. Only the "fat cats" will prosper, as now.

In civil legal aid cases where county court costs per case are restricted to £2500 the result will be the same. Those able to pay proper fees will inevitably have a better service than those on legal aid.

Contingency fees offer no help for cases where damages are not the principal remedy, nor will they assist where the damages claimed are very small. These of limited means, whom a hundred or two pounds in damages would be thought a small fortune, will thus be excluded entirely from justice.

What price new Labour?
Yours faithfully,
STANLEY BEST,
Glebe Cottage,
Broadwoodkelly, Winkleigh, Devon,
November 4.

From Mr Lionel Bloch

Sir, Mr Stephen Nathan, QC, and other correspondents are perfectly right to underline the fact that the Lord Chancellor's "no win, no fee" proposals are no substitute for legal aid and that, ultimately, they will damage our system of justice. However, neither they nor Mr Adrian Zuckerman (article, October 28) seem prepared to acknowledge that the State cannot continue to finance the

ever-increasing cost of subsidising improvident litigants.

This open-ended liability could be brought under control by a change in our current rules of procedure, under which every bit of paper, however remotely connected with a case, is included in the proceedings.

It is this perfectionist approach to evidence which is largely responsible for the exorbitant cost of litigation. Stemming this documentary flood is obviously not popular with many practitioners; but does this justify the lack of debate on such an obvious remedy?

Yours faithfully,
LIONEL BLOCH,
Halcyn,
Ormond Avenue, Richmond, Surrey,
November 3.

From Mr Guy Mansfield, QC

Sir, The bald statement by Mr David Pannick, QC, that "conditional fee agreements... have been working well in the personal injury field" ("Why the Chancellor is right", Law, November 4) is misleading.

The only survey which has investigated such agreements to date was made by the Policy Studies Institute and summarised in a report published last September, entitled *The Price of Success*. It was a survey of 300 firms of solicitors, all personal injury specialists, and the Bar was not asked to take part.

That survey found a worrying inconsistency in the uplift (success fee) applied to cases with similar chances of success, and potentially serious cause for concern about whether the scheme is operating fairly and consistently — a matter on which it pointed out that consumers are in a weak position to judge.

Yours faithfully,
GUY MANSFIELD
(Vice-Chairman, Legal Aid and Fees Committee of the Bar Council),
1 Crown Office Row, Temple, EC4,
November 4.

Easing pain for the terminally ill

From Dr David Oliver

Sir, I am concerned that the media coverage of Annie Lindell's court case (report, October 29; interview, November 1) may have caused confusion about the help that can be offered to control the symptoms of terminally ill patients.

The treatment to which Ms Lindell has "won the right" is the use of carefully adjusted doses of morphine, diamorphine or other medication to relieve pain, breathlessness or other symptoms she may experience. This approach is neither new nor unusual. It is the standard practice in hospices and specialist palliative care services all over the country and should be available to any person with advanced motor neurone disease, cancer or other terminal illnesses.

Much has been made of the supposed risk that treatment with morphine or diamorphine might shorten life, by the so-called "double effect". When used appropriately, in the way reported to be proposed by Ms Lindell's GP, Dr Simon Holmes, diamorphine is unlikely to cause death. At the

hospice of which I am the medical director, the average duration of use of morphine for patients at home with motor neurone disease is 240 days, and the average duration of use of diamorphine by injection is two days.

A person with a terminal illness should not fear that the only choice is between enduring a distressing death or having their life ended. With good palliative care, addressing the physical and psycho-social issues, death for people with motor neurone disease does not need to be distressing. Symptoms can be controlled by the careful manipulation of medication, without necessarily shortening life.

I am somewhat mystified why Ms Lindell and Dr Holmes felt it necessary to go to court over a treatment that is readily available to her in the first place and which doctors carry out daily without fear of prosecution.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID OLIVER
(Medical Director),
Wisdom Hospice,
St Williams Way, Rochester, Kent,
November 1.

Formula 1 sponsorship

From Mr F. D. Skidmore

Sir, Doctors treating cancer thought that the incoming Government was taking a scientific and ethical approach to preventing cardiovascular and malignant disease by banning cigarette advertising (letters, November 7). However, the new occupant of No 10 and the ministerial team at the Department of Health appear to have lost their reason, now that they are confronted by the tobacco and motor industry lobbyists.

Robin Cook trumpets an "ethical" foreign policy to prevent death and injury by British-made munitions in the Third World. What now of a policy directed at saving thousands of young lives in the UK and reducing the misery of chronic ill-health and forced unemployment because of cardio-respiratory insufficiency?

Yours sincerely,
F. D. SKIDMORE
(Consultant surgeon and surgical oncologist),
11 Orchard Drive, SE3,
November 6.

Choc horror

From Mr R. N. Richmond

Sir, I am afraid that Dr Napier Pennington (letter, November 7) has fallen into the trap laid so subtly by those devious foreigners. They are taking it for granted that their definition of chocolate is the true one, and that we will accept it on their authority.

My view, supported by a substantial body of evidence (around 15 stone) accumulated through years of personal experience, is that chocolate is not true chocolate without an adequate quota of vegetable fats, just as breakfast is not breakfast without both bacon and eggs. The Belgian pseudo-chocolate should be renamed "cocoa confectionery".

Yours faithfully,
R. N. RICHMOND,
Wits End,
6 Grosvenor Close, Ashley Heath,
Ringwood, Hampshire,
November 7.

Funding for Bosnia

From Mr Peter Anderson

Sir, In 1996 most of the funding for Bosnia being channelled through the European Commission was not spent, largely because its procedures, on its own admission, could not co-ordinate such a complex programme.

Early in 1997 the Commission sent an independent study team, of which I was a member, to prepare an integrated plan for the Una Sana and Banja Luka regions for the years 1997 to 1999 which could be used in all regions. It included reconstruction, kick-starting the economy, community services, repatriating refugees and displaced persons, co-ordinating inputs from all agencies and a full management approach.

More than six months have passed since the plan was accepted, but despite the desperate situation in Bosnia the Commission has done little to improve matters and the underspend continues.

The tragedy of Bosnia is not that resources are not available, but that the European Commission is incapable of organising them. It is easy to have sympathy with Euroseptics.

Yours faithfully,
PETER ANDERSON,
4 Sweetmore Close,
Lower Oddington,
Morton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire,
November 4.

Proceed with care

From Miss Victoria Barnett

Sir, We recently received a lovely flower arrangement from my sister. With it we got a "flower and plant care guide" which included the following words of wisdom:

Candles. These are for decoration only. To avoid the risk of fire you are advised not to light them.

Yours faithfully,
V. BARNETT,
13 Langley Avenue,
Monkseaton, Tyne and Wear,
November 9.

Act of remembrance

From Mr Joe Vitagliano

Sir, Any act of remembrance that simply looks to the deaths of the past (leading article, November 8) amounts to an infinite repetition of such acts without any guarantee of change in the future.

Perhaps today, in what appears to be a new mood of national pride, we should use the two minutes of silence as follows: the first reserved for the tragic loss of life that inevitably accompanies war; the second for the futility that is often fostered on trusting populations all over the world who do the bidding of remote and protected politicians.

Yours faithfully,
JOE VITAGLIANO,
79 Farm Holt,
New Ash Green, Longfield, Kent,
November 10.

From Mr Brian Locke

Sir, As well as dedicating our village war memorial to the score of men who gave their lives in the First World War, the words continue:

And also a thank offering to Almighty God for the return home of their 90 comrades.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN LOCKE,
Cadogan Grange,
Bisley, Stroud, Gloucestershire,
November 10.

Defining the age

From Mr Ray Ward

Sir, How did Collins Dictionaries come to choose "moon buggy" as their 1969 word ("Words that define the modern age", November 3)? The "moon buggy" (lunar rover) was first used on Apollo 15 in 1971.

Yours faithfully,
RAY WARD,
Flat 97, 17 Sheppard Drive, SE16.

From Mr K. L. Samant

Sir, Blairite (1997)? Never heard of it. But the whole world knows Thatcherism.

Yours faithfully,
K. L. SAMANT,
16 Charles II Street, SW1,
November 4.

I bank, therefore...

From Mr Nigel P. Ready

Sir, Your correspondent requiring a "certificate of existence" (letter, November 3) would be well advised to visit a local notary public. Notaries public, who may be found in all major towns, are appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and their certificates are recognised internationally.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL P. READY
(Honorary Secretary),
Society of Public Notaries of London,
10 Philpot Lane, EC3.

From Dr John Burscough

Sir, I am often asked to countersign my patients' "certificates of existence". I always check their pulses before doing so.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BURSCOUGH,
Woodland View, Meiton Road,
Wrawley, Brigg, Lincolnshire,
November 5.

An opportunity to win £1,000 every month

The story so far

So who is this Marco Negri that everybody is talking about? Why? Are there lots of other Marco Negris that nobody is talking about?

In Rome, probably. I mean the one in Glasgow. Oh, that Marco Negri. He plays for Rangers. I had got that far. I want to know where he suddenly sprang from. I read last week that most of the people who win the ITF monthly prizes have him in their teams. How did they know about him?

What are you trying to say? "Why didn't I know about him?" I suppose I'm trying to say "Why didn't I know about him?" Failure of your scouting system, old chap. We've had this conversation before.

But about Negri... Came from Perugia in Italy for £3.5 million in the summer. Scored 15 goals in 27 games for a team that got relegated, including six in the last four matches. And all that against Italian defences.

Absolutely.

So anyone with half a brain should have known what he would do against Dunfermline and company. You said it. I didn't. But you're being hard on yourself. A lot of people thought that Brian Laudrup would score more points this season than he has so far. The trouble is, it would be a little expensive to rectify the Negri situation.

Ah yes — player revaluation, of course. £3.5 million was affordable. Since the first revaluation, he would now cost me twice that.

But are you sure your own strikers aren't up to the job? Well, you remember I was thinking of pepping up my forward line?

And every striker you considered immediately stopped scoring?

You do remember. Anyway, I did a little wheeler-dealing and brought in Chris Sutton — Glenn Hoddle obviously agreed with me, because he put him in the England squad — and although he had a header saved, he didn't actually score himself.

Neither did Negri, of course.

Er? What's that?

Yes, Rangers won the Old Firm game, but it was Richard Gough who scored the goal.

Maybe I should pay closer attention to the Scottish results. I think my point about scouting is made.

Still, it's all a bit academic.

How do you mean?

I had to move so many players around to raise the cash for Sutton that I've used up all my transfers until December now, anyway.

Has your side got that Barnsley feeling? Take heart from one team which has jumped no fewer than 58,000 places this month alone.

Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, faces a long struggle if he is to lift his team the three places up the FA Cup Premier League table to safety. He may take inspiration from some examples of Interactive Team Football managers who have recently made far more spectacular leaps in the list, thanks to extensive use of the transfer system.

Mr G. Millington, of Worktop, has seen his team, Survivors (a message for Barnsley there), jump 2,491 places since the end of October, to the heady heights of 238th; in other words, among the contenders. The big names, like Negri and Schmeichel, have all been in and out of the side.

An even bigger jump was recorded by Mr S. Cranshaw, of Cheshire, whose Sweet FA ended October 20 placed 689th. 220 points later, he has risen to 4,801st: the last-minute signing of Teddy Sheringham and Kjell Olofsson, both of whom scored twice on Sunday, made a significant difference. Lower down the ITF tables, a few points can trigger a rise or fall of thousands of places. Jacqueline Gillies, October's winner of the Women's League, scored a relatively modest 174 points, but it was enough to boost her position in the main ITF league by no fewer than 58,712 places. "Unbelievable," she said. Only another 28,812 to go.



Persevere, though, and you will get there in the end. George Weiss, aka Rainbow, has entered ITF in both the previous two years, but now, for the first time, sees his selection, Rainbows Toppers, stand proudly at the

HOW IS YOUR TEAM DOING?

Call the ITF helpline on 0991 884 843

50p a minute, using a Touch-tone telephone. Public telephones cost about twice as much.



Sutton: second top ITF striker, England squad member, but no goals on Saturday

head of the ITF listings. "I'm quite thrilled," he said. "I don't expect to stay there very long. I've got, I think, one transfer to go." His best deal of the past week was to sign David James in place of Schmeichel — worth, in total, 13 points. He applied, unsuccessfully, for the Newcastle manager's job after the resignation of Kevin Keegan. After this, Sir John Hall might wish he had reconsidered. But if the Barnsley job comes up...

FAQ: YOUR UP-TO-DATE TEAM SCORES

The brand new Times Feedback service provides you with a complete results sheet of your team, showing current and total scores, dates, times and details of transfers, as well as your position in the ITF League and, if appropriate, your mini-league (women's, students, youth). Scores and transfer confirmations are updated by 12 noon on the day following a match or matches.

Make sure you have your ten-digit PIN number ready when you call. To obtain an ITF Team Feedback, simply pick up the handset of the fax machine and dial the telephone number below. If your fax does not have a handset, attach a handset or press the on-hook or telephone button instead and dial the number below. Listen carefully to the instructions and press the appropriate buttons when asked. Calls cost £1.10 per minute and are available in the UK only.

The number to call for your Feedback is:

0991 111 333

If you have any problems operating this service, call the Feedback Helpline on 0173-412 3795. This service is provided by Telecom Express, Westminster Tower, London SE1 7SR.

LEAGUE UPDATES

ITF LEAGUE	PPA PLAYERS' LEAGUE
Monthly prize of £25,000 top prize	Monthly prize of £25,000 top prize
£25,000 monthly prize	£25,000 monthly prize
STUDENTS' LEAGUE	YOUTH LEAGUE
Monthly prize of £25,000 top prize	Monthly prize of £25,000 top prize
£25,000 monthly prize	£25,000 monthly prize
WOMEN'S LEAGUE	
Monthly prize of £25,000 top prize	
£25,000 monthly prize	

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

1 S Brooks	380	Sandra Special	380
2 P Johnson	372	XII Superstars	372
3 S Reader	371	Sophie Reader Pa	371
4 P Sloan	370	Patricia Ltd	370
5 S Whitfield	366	Small Bums	366
6 H Irvine	359	Hill's Bales	359
7 B Bee	357	Bumble Five	357
8 V Douglas	353	The Belle Drell	353
9 B Sharp	353	Penfield FC	353
10 L Emery	352	Buggey's Boys	352
11 J Blimand	350	Jenny's Allstars	350
12 R Fletcher	348	Ab Fab	348
13 E Staines	348	United States	348
14 J Gardner	347	IS Chumbawumba	347
15 A Gallagher	347	The Lynch Mob	347
16 P Beattie	347	Sounds Good	347
17 S Catchpole	345	Blue Boys	345
18 C McKnight	345	Real Dingle X	345
19 J Lumsdaine	344	Alex Leamington	344
20 S Alder	343	Shona's Hotties	343

STUDENTS' LEAGUE

1 N Wheatley	401	H D G Is A Sad Winter	401
2 G Wilson	400	Dog Soldiers	400
3 Mr N Wheatley	395	Witheridge Is Ill	395
4 I McGill	373	The White Helms	373
5 J Widdell	372	Father Shabooob	372
6 N Wheatley	366	A Tight Horse Is Fun	366
7 Z Teer	368	Ziggy Greaves XI	368
8 P Henson	367	Hensonhammers	367
9 C Maricic	366	Jensen's XI	366
10 T Gardner	362	6 Chumbawumba	362
11 Steven Shipley	360	Set Against	360
12 C Van Hough	359	The Boy Sprouts	359
13 H K Gajdhur	355	Henry's Eleven	355
14 J Frost	353	Variety Sports Inter	353
15 J Liversidge	353	Real Ramboothum	353
16 J Pettigrew	348	Tor Cosmos	348
17 J Gardner	347	IS Chumbawumba	347
18 A Gallagher	347	The Lynch Mob	347
19 M Barker	347	Maize Marvies	347
20 C Tyler	347	Allstars 2	347

YOUTH LEAGUE

1 D Lewis	405	Lewis Boys II	405
2 C Calderbank	366	Calder XI	366
3 C Maricic	366	Jensen's XI	366
4 P Carter	365	Spartan Carter	365
5 R Alden	361	Cornholio Boys	361
6 T Smith	358	Up The League FC	358
7 N Brotherton	353	Total Commitment	353
8 M Sonarsan	352	Horley Flames	352
9 D Chedham	349	Clifton Rovers	349
10 K Sewart	349	Nowt Special	349
11 R Gullfield	348	Curt's Darts	348
12 S Bird	348	Golden Wonders	348
13 G McKibbin	348	The Roach Kings	348
14 T Stansfield	348	Gullfield Goals	348
15 J Gardner	347	IS Chumbawumba	347
16 M McKibbin	346	Ballygallyovers	346
17 M Roberts	345	Kryptonite Three	345
18 C Oyston	345	The Offspring FC	345
19 C Wheaton	344	Chris's Crusaders	344
20 Z Calabrese	344	Zacks Army	344

ITF LEAGUE

1 G Rainbow	499	Rainbows Toppers	499
2 Mike Madden	494	Poachers never change their sp	494
3 Mr D Eilbrooke Shiner	453	Cocoe 4	453
4 S Legg	447	Big Mac Europe	447
5 Mr M Jones	444	Big Mac Europe	444
6 George Mijostovich	444	Big Mac Europe	444
7 Mr M Jones	442	Big Mac Europe	442
8 Malcolm Jackson	442	Big Mac Europe	442
9 B Fookerley	441	Big Mac Europe	441
10 C Sloan	437	Brentingham FC	437
11 J W Goody	437	Big Mac Europe	437
12 D Rums	433	Big Mac Europe	433
13 Muland	433	Big Mac Europe	433
14 D Fenton	432	Big Mac Europe	432
15 Mr M Jones	431	Big Mac Europe	431
16 K Parnell	431	Big Mac Europe	431
17 Al Hastings	430	Big Mac Europe	430
18 Steven Adams	429	Big Mac Europe	429
19 Mr A Colcombe	428	Big Mac Europe	428
20 J Dolan	427	Big Mac Europe	427
21 R Calder	427	Big Mac Europe	427
22 D Stuart	426	Big Mac Europe	426
23 G Koomer	425	Big Mac Europe	425
24 Mary Ann Kennedy	422	Big Mac Europe	422
25 W Widdell	422	Big Mac Europe	422
26 Diney	422	Big Mac Europe	422
27 R Yates	419	Big Mac Europe	419
28 R Yates	419	Big Mac Europe	419
29 Mr S Legg	418	Big Mac Europe	418
30 Allinson Scandals	418	Big Mac Europe	418
31 J W Goody	418	Big Mac Europe	418
32 Mary Ann Kennedy	418	Big Mac Europe	418
33 A Birrell	418	Big Mac Europe	418
34 P. Piers	418	Big Mac Europe	418
35 V Cox	418	Big Mac Europe	418
36 Mr M Jones	418	Big Mac Europe	418
37 Richard Callis	418	Big Mac Europe	418
38 J Hunt	418	Big Mac Europe	418
39 MR Trevor K Perry	418	Big Mac Europe	418
40 C Burr	418	Big Mac Europe	418
41 D Stuart	418	Big Mac Europe	418
42 Barber Papa a la Bacon	418	Big Mac Europe	418
43 K Parnell	418	Big Mac Europe	418
44 S Legg	418	Big Mac Europe	418
45 D Stuart	418	Big Mac Europe	418
46 Mrs Sheila Boriand	418	Big Mac Europe	418
47 C Wilson	418	Big Mac Europe	418
48 Chris Ford	418	Big Mac Europe	418
49 P Turner	418	Big Mac Europe	418
50 Mr DP Knight	418	Big Mac Europe	418
51 AC Henderson	418	Big Mac Europe	418
52 C Milner	418	Big Mac Europe	418
53 J Heath	418	Big Mac Europe	418
54 Tim Oldfield	418	Big Mac Europe	418
55 Ceady	418	Big Mac Europe	418
56 Jeremy Dwyer	418	Big Mac Europe	418
57 J Hunt	418	Big Mac Europe	418
58 D Stuart	418	Big Mac Europe	418
59 R Jones	418	Big Mac Europe	418
60 A Nevill	418	Big Mac Europe	418
61 Susan Makin	418	Big Mac Europe	418
62 Alex Baskille	418	Big Mac Europe	418
63 Jon Pagan	418	Big Mac Europe	418
64 Adam Hojeha	418	Big Mac Europe	418
65 Graham Watson	418	Big Mac Europe	418
66 Richard Keenan	418	Big Mac Europe	418
67 T Gammage	418	Big Mac Europe	418
68 P Bee	418	Big Mac Europe	418
69 Mr K Lebbey	418	Big Mac Europe	418
70 Mr N Wheatley	418	Big Mac Europe	418
71 A Old Barn House	418	Big Mac Europe	418
72 Tabin	418	Big Mac Europe	418
73 Guido	418	Big Mac Europe	418
74 Andrew	418	Big Mac Europe	418
75 Cressie Dabner	418	Big Mac Europe	418
76 Grahame Watson	418	Big Mac Europe	418
77 James Tan	418	Big Mac Europe	418
78 K Barrell	418	Big Mac Europe	418
79 C Scarlet	418	Big Mac Europe	418
80 P Turner	418	Big Mac Europe	418
81 B J Turner	418	Big Mac Europe	418
82 A Edeger	418	Big Mac Europe	418
83 Gordon Taylor	418	Big Mac Europe	418
84 Peter McDerm	418	Big Mac Europe	418
85 Mr J Edroedman	418	Big Mac Europe	418
86 S Legg	418	Big Mac Europe	418
87 J Barlett	418	Big Mac Europe	418
88 P Darnell	418	Big Mac Europe	418
89 Margaret Kelly	418	Big Mac Europe	418
90 V Cox	418	Big Mac Europe	418
91 Mr K Lebbey	418	Big Mac Europe	418
92 Mr D Nichols	418	Big Mac Europe	418
93 A Mella	418	Big Mac Europe	418
94 P Turner	418	Big Mac Europe	418
95 Steve Hiss	418	Big Mac Europe	418
96 J W Goody	418	Big Mac Europe	418
97 Hugh Somerville	418	Big Mac Europe	418
98 Mr J Smith	418	Big Mac Europe	418

PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE

1 Paul Simpson	328	Derby County/Wolves	328
2 Simon Grayson	326	Amn Villa	326
3 John Salako	320	Derby County	320
4 Dean Blackwell	318	Wimbledon	318
5 Alf Inge Haslestad	318	Leeds United	318
6 Robert Lee	318	Newcastle United	318
7 Steve Hogg	318	Derby County	318
8 Brian Kvam	318	Leeds United	318
9 Rob Savage	318	Leeds United	318
10 Kyle Lighbourne	318	Derby County	318
11 Remond Hunt	318	Derby County	318
12 Tim Bracker	318	West Ham United	318
13 David Turle	318	Crystal Palace	318
14 Richard Shaw	318	Derby County	318
15 David Barry	318	Newcastle United	318
16 David Wetherall	318	Leeds United	318
17 Kevin Cunningham	318	Wimbledon	318
18 Kevin Gallacher	318	Blackburn Rovers	318
19 Frank Leeson	318	Blackburn Rovers	318
20 David Seaman	318	Derby County	318
21 Paul Williams	318	Crystal Palace	318
22 Kevin Muscat	318	Derby County	318
23 Kevin Haddock	318	Derby County	318
24 Paul Bick	318	Leeds United	318
25 Lee Sharpe	318	Tottenham Hotspur	318
26 Gary Mabbutt	318	Wimbledon	318
27 Jason East	318	Derby County	318
28 Dennis Wise	318	Derby County	318
29 John Hendrie	318	Derby County	318
30 Neil Redden	318	Derby County	318
31 Dean Holdsworth	318	Derby County	318
32 Gareth Southgate	318	Derby County	318
33 Teddy Sheringham	318	Manchester United	318
34 Dave Watson	318	Derby County	318
35 Pontus Kasper	318	Leeds United	318
36 Andrew Liddell	318	Derby County	318
37 Robbie Fowler	318	Blackburn Rovers	318
38 Nigel Martyn	318	Leeds United	318
39 Nicky Butt	318	Manchester United	318
40 Graeme Le Saux	318	Derby County	318
41 Robin Van Der Laan	318	Derby County	318
42 Stewart Carson	318	Derby County	318
43 Lee Dixon	318	Derby County	318
44 Kasey Keller	318	Derby County	318
45 Ugo Ehiogu	318	Derby County	318
46 Patrick Berger	318	Derby County	318
47 Lewis United	318	Derby County	318
48 Andy Roberts	318	Derby County	318
49 John Beardsley	318	Derby County	318
50 Colin Hendry	318	Derby County	318
51 Chris Powell	318	Derby County	318
52 John Scales	318	Derby County	318
53 Andy Townsend	318	Derby County	318
54 Steve Clark	318	Derby County	318
55 Ian Pearce	318	Derby County	318
56 Andy Sutton	318	Derby County	318
57 Steve Lomas	318	Derby County	318
58 Roger Cross	318	Derby County	318
59 Alan Hargrove	318	Derby County	318
60 Darren Fisher	318	Derby County	318
61 Spencer Frlin	318	Derby County	318
62 Danny Wilson	318	Derby County	318
63 Gary Neville	318	Derby County	318
64 David Beckham	318	Derby County	318
65 Nicky Eaden	318	Derby County	318
66 Mark Wright	318	Derby County	318
67 John Dowling	318	Derby County	318
68 Grahame Zola	318	Derby County	318
69 Lee Sharpe	318	Derby County	318
70 Alan Wright	318	Derby County	318
71 Alan Shearer	318	Derby County	318
72 Mark Edwards	318	Derby County	318
73 Mike Whitlow	318	Derby County	318

INTERNET LEAGUE

1 Mike Madden	454	Poachers never change	
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Your full guide to ITF players and transfers

Like the stock market, even your best gilt-edged ITF investments can bring a surprisingly poor return

It has been an uncomfortable few weeks for investors. A wobble on the Far East markets, and those building society windfalls start to diminish in value from a down-payment on a BMW to a cash offer on a tenth-hand Mini. As they say, shares can go down as well as up.

This weekend demonstrated that the same is true of ITF. Entrants with Manchester United players, in particular, may find that previously gilt-edged investments have somewhat tarnished. Up to Saturday, Peter Schmeichel, the goalkeeper, was a consistent scorer of points: three for every goalless half, of which there were plenty, as the United forwards kept visitors to Old Trafford busy at the other end.

All very well when Barnsley and Sheffield, Wednesday were being thrashed; but Sunday's visit to Highbury, which ended in a 3-2 defeat for Alex Ferguson's team, was also an unpleasant surprise for ITF managers with Schmeichel in their teams. An overall score of minus five (one for an appearance, but minus two for each goal conceded) is a most untypical Schmeichel score.

Dennis Irwin, the full-back, was not playing as a result of a notorious tackle last Wednesday (so should be transferred if possible), but he finds his points score (20) only one point higher than it was on September 2.



Walker: unfamiliar pleasure of a clean sheet and victory this week

Barnsley defence and the Red Sea were inevitable.

They used to sing "You'll never beat Des Walker" during Walker's heyday at Nottingham Forest, but most other players in the ITF lists have managed it so far. Walker had the unfamiliar pleasure of a clean sheet and a victory this weekend, but he is still some way below his mid-September total.

The ITF scoring system makes it difficult for midfield players or forwards to lose points, but Savo Milosevic managed it last week with no goals and a yellow card in Villa's defeat by Chelsea.



NICK SZCZEPANIK

Highbury, Sunday: Schmeichel ended with a most untypical minus five points



IN			
10702	Jonathan Gould	Leeds	29.5m
12702	Paul Jones	Southampton	21.0m
20803	Frank Sinclair	Chelsea	22.0m
21004	Jamie Smith	Crystal Palace	21.5m
21103	Gary Rowatt	Derby County	21.5m
31904	Spencer Prior	Leicester City	22.0m
40705	Paul Lambert	Leeds	23.0m
40904	Paul Toller	Coventry City	21.5m
41804	Bruno Ribeiro	Leeds United	22.5m
51502	Jim Hamilton	Hibernian	23.0m
51602	Steve Crawford	Hibernian	23.0m
52004	Michael Owen	Liverpool	24.5m
52704	Kevin Davies	Southampton	23.5m
OUT			
50801	John McGinley	Bolton Wanderers	22.0m
62501	David Platt	Sheffield Wednesday	21.0m

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

YOU MAY transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer allowance. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

EACH TEAM has been entered at the start of the season with allocated 60 transfers for the season and each team registering after that date has a number of transfers reduced by three per week up to December 13. All teams registered before noon that day will be allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered after noon on December 13 will be allocated 20 transfers for the rest of the season.

THE LINE is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may only make transfers by using a Touch-Tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-Tone). You will need ten digits for your PIN which you will have to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players that you are transferring.

YOU MAY make up to four transfers per call but may make as many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of transfers.

TRANSFERS made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12 noon will become effective for matches starting after 12 noon the following day.

YOUR NEW player only starts to score points for you when he transfers is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

CALLS COST 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost approximately twice as much.

Transfer number: 0891 884 628.
Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538.

Code	Name	Team	Cost (£k)	Week	Total
10101	J Leighton	Aberdeen	2.00	-9	-11
10201	D Swann	Arsenal	5.00	1	47
10301	M Boudich	Aston Villa	3.00	2	26
10401	D Watson	Barnsley	1.00	-7	-34
10501	T Flowers	Blackburn R	3.50	-2	34
10601	K Eriksen	Bolton W	1.50	-6	18
10701	S Kerr	Carlisle	4.00	0	0
10801	E De Goey	Chelsea	3.00	3	32
10901	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-3	27
11001	C Nash	Crystal Palace	0.25	0	0
11002	K Millar	Crystal Palace	2.00	2	29
11101	M Poom	Derby County	1.50	-7	24
11201	S Dykstra	Dundee United	2.00	8	8
11301	I Westwater	Dunfermline	1.00	8	-10
11401	N Southall	Everton	2.00	-5	6
11501	G Rousset	Hearts	1.50	8	39
11601	C Reid	Hibernian	1.50	0	0
11701	D Lalicovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-6
11801	N Martin	Leeds United	3.50	-1	37
11901	K Keller	Leicester City	2.50	0	38
12001	D James	Liverpool	3.50	8	32
12101	P Schmeichel	Manchester Utd	5.00	-6	62
12201	S Howie	Motherwell	1.00	0	0
12301	S Given	Newcastle Utd	4.00	-3	17
12401	A Goran	Rangers	5.00	8	17
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.00	8	-18
12601	M Taylor	Southampton	0.50	0	0
12801	A Main	St Johnstone	0.50	-3	18
12901	I Walker	St Johnstone H	3.00	-4	24
12901	L Milosavljevic	West Ham Utd	2.00	0	7
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.50	0	32
20101	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	0	11
20201	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	0	25
20301	E Pett	Arsenal	3.00	0	13
20401	S Stanbury	Aston Villa	3.00	0	11
20501	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	0	13
20601	S Grayson	Aston Villa	2.50	0	12
20701	F Nelson	Aston Villa	2.00	0	8
20801	N Eaden	Barnsley	0.50	-3	-8
20901	N Thompson	Barnsley	0.50	0	-8
21001	D Bernard	Barnsley	1.00	0	-6
21101	J Kenna	Blackburn R	2.50	0	25
21201	P Valery	Blackburn R	2.50	0	8
21301	N Cox	Bolton W	2.00	0	3
21401	M Whitlow	Bolton W	1.50	0	-3
21501	R Elliott	Bolton W	2.00	0	4
21601	T Boyd	Carlisle	3.50	-1	24
21701	T McGinley	Carlisle	3.50	0	19
21801	J McManis	Carlisle	8.00	0	16
21901	G Le Seuz	Chelsea	4.00	0	16
22001	D Paterson	Chelsea	4.00	1	25
22101	C Babayaro	Chelsea	2.00	1	9
22201	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	-1	11
22301	S Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	0	0
22401	M Hall	Coventry City	1.50	-2	7
22501	O Gordon	Crystal Palace	1.50	-1	14
22601	M Ewerth	Crystal Palace	1.50	-1	7
22701	C Powell	Derby County	1.00	0	0
22801	D Yates	Derby County	2.50	-2	-1
22901	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	1.50	-2	2
23001	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	-3	-2
23101	T Pugh	Everton	1.50	5	7
23201	G Locke	Hibernian	1.00	0	-1
23301	D Kerr	Kilmarnock	2.50	-1	15
23401	G Kelly	Leeds Utd	2.50	-3	14
23501	D Robertson	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	25
23601	S Guppy	Leicester City	1.50	0	17
23701	S Bjornby	Liverpool	4.00	5	17
23801	J McInnes	Liverpool	3.00	1	0
23901	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	5	11
24001	D Irwin	Manchester Utd	4.00	-2	26
24101	G Neville	Manchester Utd	3.50	-3	18
24201	P Neville	Manchester Utd	3.00	-1	12
24301	S Watson	Newcastle Utd	2.00	0	14
24401	W Barton	Newcastle Utd	2.00	-1	16
24501	J Beresford	Newcastle Utd	3.00	0	6
24601	S Pearce	Newcastle Utd	3.00	5	14
24701	A Cleland	Rangers	3.00	0	16
24801	S Stanssens	Rangers	2.00	1	-15
24901	P Blondeau	Sheffield Wed	2.00	-5	-12
25001	I Nelson	Sheffield Wed	1.00	-1	15
25101	J Dodd	Southampton	0.75	1	3
25201	F Burrell	Southampton	0.75	0	2
25301	S Charlton	Tottenham H	2.00	-3	-3
25401	C Wilson	Tottenham H	2.00	-3	-2
25501	J Edinburg	Tottenham H	2.00	-3	-2
25601	S Carr	West Ham Utd	3.00	0	0
25701	J Dicks	West Ham Utd	1.50	-1	-2
25801	A Impey	Wimbledon	2.00	0	2
25901	S Thatcher	Wimbledon	2.00	0	3
26001	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	2.00	0	1
30101	B O'Neill	Aberdeen	2.00	-4	-16
30201	T Adams	Arsenal	3.50	0	15
30301	M Keenan	Arsenal	3.50	0	0
30401	G Grimandi	Arsenal	2.00	0	15
30501	S Boudich	Arsenal	3.00	2	11
30601	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	0	6
30701	U Ehiogho	Aston Villa	3.50	0	14
30801	A De Zeeuw	Barnsley	1.00	-4	-21
30901	A Moses	Barnsley	0.50	-5	-20
31001	M Appleby	Barnsley	0.50	0	-2
31101	C Hendry	Blackburn R	3.00	0	22
31201	S Hendry	Blackburn R	2.50	0	13
31301	T Pedersen	Blackburn R	2.00	0	0
31401	G Taggart	Bolton W	1.50	0	5
31501	G Bergsson	Bolton W	1.00	-4	4
31601	C Fairclough	Bolton W	1.00	0	0
31701	M Fairclough	Bolton W	1.50	-4	1
31801	E Arnold	Carlisle	1.50	0	1
31901	M Mackay	Carlisle	3.00	0	2
32001	A Saif	Carlisle	3.00	0	22
32101	M Rieper	Carlisle	3.00	0	21
32201	F Albrecht	Chelsea	3.00	0	24
32301	M Duberry	Chelsea	3.00	0	24
32401	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.50	0	11
32501	B Lambourde	Chelsea	2.50	0	-1
32601	L Dale	Coventry City	1.50	0	1
32701	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	-1	15
32801	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	-2	2
32901	A Roberts	Crystal Palace	1.50	0	8
33001	I Algham	Crystal Palace	0.75	0	7
33101	D Tuttle	Crystal Palace	0.75	0	0
33201	I Stimpac	Derby County	2.50	0	7
33301	J Laurens	Derby County	1.50	-3	10
33401	S Pressley	Dundee Utd	2.00	5	10
33501	G Shields	Dunfermline	1.50	5	-8
33601	S Bilic	Everton	2.50	-3	-10
33701	D Watson	Everton	2.00	0	2
33801	D Walr	Hibernian	2.00	5	22
33901	J Hughes	Hibernian	2.00	-1	-8
34001	D Wetherill	Leeds Utd	2.00	-1	23
34101	G Hall	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	11
34201	R Molenaar	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	8
34301	L Radde	Leeds Utd	1.50	-1	9
34401	P Kean	Leicester City	3.00	0	54
34501	P Kean	Leicester City	2.00	0	19
34601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.50	0	25
34701	M Wright	Liverpool	3.00	0	5
34801	S Kvarme	Liverpool	3.00	5	10
34901	H Berg	Manchester Utd	3.50	-2	21
35001	D May	Manchester Utd	3.50	0	0
35101	G Palfister	Manchester Utd	3.50	-2	27
35201	P Albion	Newcastle Utd	3.00	-2	8
35301	D Paez	Newcastle Utd	3.00	-1	8
35401	S Hovey	Newcastle Utd	2.00	0	1
35501	A Plesner	Newcastle Utd	3.00	-1	7
35601	S Purnell	Rangers	3.50	5	25
35701	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	5	20
35801	L Amundsen	Rangers	3.50	0	0
35901	D Walker	Sheffield Wed	2.00	5	-7
36001	P Kean	Sheffield Wed	2.00	4	-7
36101	P Albion	Southampton	2.00	1	-5
36201	C Lundkvam	Southampton	1.00	0	5
36301	M Moniz	Southampton	1.00	0	9
36401	S McKuskey	St Johnstone	0.50	0	4
36501	S Campbell	Tottenham H	3.00	-3	0
36601	J Scalls	Tottenham H	2.50	-3	3
36701	R Vega	Tottenham H	2.00	0	-4
36801	C Calderwood	Tottenham H	2.00	-2	4
36901	R Ferdinand	West Ham Utd	2.50	-2	-4
37001	R Hall	West Ham Utd	2.00	0	0
37101	D Unsworth	West Ham Utd	2.00	1	-2
37201	S Potts	West Ham Utd	1.50	-1	4
37301	I Pearce	West Ham Utd	2.00	-2	-8
37401	C Perry	Wimbledon	2.50	0	9
37501	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	2.50	0	8
40101	E Jess	Aberdeen	2.00	1	9
40201	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.00	0	7
40301	M Overmars	Arsenal	5.50	2	33
40401	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.50	5	26
40501	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00	0	1
40601	R Parhour	Arsenal	2.50	2	29
40701	D Platt	Arsenal	1.50	4	14
40801	M Draper	Aston Villa	3.00	0	20
40901	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	0	24
41001	N Redfern	Barnsley	3.00	0	30
41101	E Tinker	Barnsley	2.00	0	14
41201	D Sheridan	Barnsley	1.00	1	11
41301	M Bullock	Barnsley	0.50	1	12
41401	J Wilcox	Blackburn R	3.00	0	13
41501	B McKinlay	Blackburn R	3.00	2	13
41601	T Sherwood	Blackburn R	3.00	5	21
41701	G Filcott	Blackburn R	3.00	2	18
41801	A Thompson	Bolton W	2.50	0	21
41901	S Sellers	Bolton W	2.00	0	11
42001	P Fransen	Bolton W	2.00	0	15
42101	M Johnson	Bolton W	2.00	0	2
50101	R Altken	Aberdeen	1.50	-1	1
50201	A Wenger	Arsenal	5.00	3	28
50301	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	1	8
50401	D Wilson	Barnsley	0.50	-1	0
50501	R Hodgson	Blackburn R	3.00	3	26
50601	C Todd	Bolton W	1.50	-1	7
50701	W Jensen	Carlisle	4.00	-1	22
50801	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	3	21
50901	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.00	1	14
51001	S Coppell	Crystal Palace	0.75	1	11
51101	J Smith	Derby County	1.00	-1	15
51201	T McLean	Dundee United	2.00	3	11
51301	S Paton	Dunfermline	1.00	-3	11
51401	H Kendall	Everton	2.00	-1	5
51501	J Jafferley	Hibernian	2.50	3	25
61001	J Duffy	Hibernian	2.00	-1	3
61101	B Williamson	Kilmarnock	1.00	3	7
61201	G Graham	Leeds United	2.00	3	18
61301	M O'Neill	Leicester City	2.50	0	19
61401	R Evans	Liverpool	4.00	3	19
61501	A Ferguson	Manchester Utd	5.00	-1	26
62001	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.00	-1	-3
62101	K Delglish	Newcastle Utd	4.50	1	15
62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00	3	22
62501	D Pleet	Sheffield Wed	1.00	3	4
62701	D Jones	St Johnstone	0.50	3	8
62801	P Sturrock	St Johnstone	0.50	-1	9
62901	G Francis	Tottenham H	2.50	-1	6
62901	H Redknapp	West Ham Utd	2.00	-1	9
63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	2.00	0	11

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 11 1997

BT makes big profit even though defeated in world's biggest takeover WorldCom pays \$37bn for MCI



Bonfield: penalty fee

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

WORLDCom has secured victory in its battle for MCI with the world's biggest ever takeover bid. Its revised \$37 billion offer won the support of MCI executives to defeat a rival \$28 billion bid from GTE.

Victory was handed to WorldCom when British Telecom agreed to sell its 20 per cent MCI stake to WorldCom for \$7 billion in cash, yielding BT a \$2.25 billion pre-tax profit on its investment. BT, of which Sir Peter Bonfield is chief executive, will also receive a \$465 million penalty fee for the break-up of its proposed merger with MCI. MCI WorldCom will be

the second-largest US telecommunications group after AT&T and the world's largest Internet service provider. It will offer a full range of communications services in the US and 200 other countries. The takeover dwarfs the previous two record deals: Nynex-Bell Atlantic and RJR Nabisco, worth \$25 billion.

Bernie Ebbers, the WorldCom chairman who will be chief executive of MCI WorldCom, said he expects to achieve cost savings of \$20 billion as well as open up significant new revenue opportunities. WorldCom will assume \$5 billion of MCI debt.

The companies hope the deal can be completed by mid-1998. However, regulatory approval is by no means

certain, although a confident Mr Ebbers said: "There are no circumstances in which the transaction could be derailed."

He claimed that his team had identified new synergies after starting detailed talks with MCI and inspecting MCI's books. He said: "The increase in the price has also to do with the cash that BT gets. The number of WorldCom shares given to MCI shareholders stays the same."

Bert Roberts, the MCI chairman who will be chairman of MCI WorldCom, said with regards to the cost savings: "We will make great gains just from the difference in hotel rates in London and Jackson, Mississippi."

Mr Roberts said he had informed

GTE of the WorldCom deal and indicated that a counterbid was extremely unlikely.

Both men were at pains to praise BT. Mr Roberts said: "There was nothing wrong with the BT merger. But after the board had a detailed look at what WorldCom had to offer it decided that it was a better alternative. When you are in a revolution things don't always happen in an orderly fashion. MCI could stand for More Changes Imminent."

MCI and WorldCom have not yet decided their future participation in Concert, the joint venture set up by MCI and BT, which has a call option on MCI's 25 per cent stake.

Scott Sullivan, 35, who will be

finance director of MCI WorldCom, said: "BT wanted cash — or greenbacks as they say. They didn't want to hold 8 or 9 per cent of WorldCom."

WorldCom had offered BT a partnership, but BT executives are said not to have felt comfortable with Mr Ebbers. The cowboy-booted ex-Olympic basketball player yesterday demonstrated how much time he has for business etiquette. Two sentences into reading a prepared statement he paused and told reporters: "Hell, you can tell I wrote this myself." After another two sentences he discarded the script littered with phrases like "esteemed entrepreneurs". At the end of the press conference he told reporters "Go, buy some stock."

Deal hailed as good for customers and investors

BY RAYMOND SNOODY, MEDIA EDITOR

USING an appropriately high-quality video link from the US, Sir Iain Vallance, BT chairman, and Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive, almost purred with pleasure yesterday over the WorldCom-MCI deal.

"We think the result," Sir Peter said, represents "a very good deal for shareholders and for our customers as well."

The top BT management emphasised the instant \$465 million (£275 million) break-up fee plus \$7 billion, or \$51 per share, for BT's 137 million shares in MCI. BT shares rose 11p to 465p on the news.

Sir Peter emphasised that the pre-tax gain of about \$2.7 billion for BT, including the break-up fee, vindicated BT's original decision to invest in MCI at \$32 a share. But City analysts asked whether BT had simply taken the money and run at the expense of an international strategy.

Sir Peter and Sir Iain were emphatic that Concert Communications Services, the joint venture between BT and MCI specialising in corporate communications, left the British group in a strong position. It had a non-exclusive five-year distribution deal in the US with MCI, but now also had the freedom to talk to other possible US partners. Sir Iain

said BT had already been approached by other US companies. "We will now be looking at investments in the US and other parts of the world," said Sir Iain, who also did not rule out other options such as share buybacks if they were in the best interests of shareholders at the time.

Sir Peter confirmed yesterday's City speculation that Cable & Wireless might be a possible partner, but added that it had proved impossible to put together a workable deal in discussions last year.

He added: "We parted as good friends. Whether there are other opportunities we can do with them we shall just have to see."

The BT executives argued that departing from the fray was inevitable once a strong counter-bid came from a US telecommunications company because it could have far greater synergies and far greater savings than an overseas operator such as BT.

Sir Peter said: "We would not want to have got into the bidding at that sort of level. It would not have been in our shareholders' interest and this deal is."

City analysts speculated that a likely outcome now seemed to be that BT would find another American partner to work with in the US.



The winner: Bernard J. Ebbers, president and chief executive officer of WorldCom

How BT got its wires crossed in phone war

BY FRASER NELSON

THESE are the key dates in BT's on-off, off-on bid to form a transatlantic telecommunications group. Thwarted in its efforts to go global, BT will bank a \$2.25 billion profit on its MCI investment and suffer a \$465 million severance fee.

June 2, 1995: Sir Iain Vallance, executive chairman of British Telecom, secures victory in his three-year campaign to break into America by setting up a joint venture with MCI — then, as now, the second-largest long-distance carrier in the US. It agrees to pay \$4.3 billion (then £2.82 million) for a 20 per cent stake, and to swap board members.

November 15, 1995: Concert, a joint venture between BT and MCI, is born. It was set up to help both companies conquer overseas markets.

May 2, 1996: After merger talks with Cable & Wireless, BT pulls out of the £33 billion deal in a row over price.

July 16, 1996: At BT's annual meeting, Sir Iain heaps praise on its Concert joint venture, which by then had won 2,500 major customers.

August 1996: MCI holds merger talks with GTE, America's third-largest local telecoms company. They come to nothing.

November 1, 1997: BT proposes a \$20 billion (£12.1 billion) merger with MCI. Concert, the joint venture's name, is to be adopted for the whole group. Sir Iain denies the MCI deal is second-best to Cable & Wireless.

June 23, 1997: BT recruits Bill

Cockburn, then chief executive of WH Smith, as managing director of BT's UK operations. He is not offered a place on the Concert board.

July 10, 1997: MCI issues a profits warning, and watches its shares plunge 20 per cent. BT's shares also plunge.

August 21, 1997: BT and MCI enter emergency talks to renegotiate the deal. Some institutional shareholders call on BT to call everything off. A day later, it emerges with a cash and shares bid worth \$22.5 billion (£11 billion), including a golden parachute which will deliver £275 million should this offer be gazumped.

October 1, 1997: WorldCom beats BT with a \$30 billion (£18.5 billion) offer. But this is payable through WorldCom's highly-valued shares rather than cash. WorldCom attempts to unravel the severance deals with BT in legal action.

October 15, 1997: GTE enters the arena with a \$28 billion (£18 billion) cash bid.

October 23, 1997: BT agrees to enter talks with GTE, aiming to agree a three-way merger with MCI and thwart WorldCom.

November 10, 1997: BT walks away after WorldCom puts in a knock-out \$37 billion bid. The deal is still in paper, but MCI accepts. BT agrees to sell its 20 per cent stake for \$7 billion, making a \$2.25 billion profit, and pockets the severance fee. Analysts say it must now find another global partner.

Managers buy polymers division of BTR for £515m

BY ADAM JONES

BTR made the first significant disposal of its restructuring yesterday, selling the bulk of its polymers division for £515 million in the second-largest UK management buyout in 1997. The 33 businesses sold made an operating profit of £65 million on sales of £471 million in 1996, and have net assets of about £180 million.

BTR shares edged ahead from 200p to 201p. The deal is the

second-largest MBO of the year for Britain's venture capitalists, beaten only by a healthcare purchase by Cinven. This is the 19th MBO of a BTR business since the start of 1995, according to the Centre for Management Buyout Research at Nottingham University.

The buyout vehicle is called UniPoly, and the deal is being funded by Legal & General Ventures and Japan's Fuji Bank. Legal

& General and management are providing £175 million of equity funding. The insurer is also contributing another £50 million mezzanine funding, with £395 million senior debt from Fuji. Six managers will own 18 per cent of the equity.

Lawrie Cant, former head of the polymer products division, becomes chief executive of UniPoly, which will aim for a stock market listing in three to five years.

DTI abandons attempts to bring Levitt back from US

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has abandoned attempts to seek the extradition of Roger Levitt, the disgraced financial services salesman — but said he would be arrested should he return to Britain.

The decision, on the eve of a High Court hearing into the legalities of the extradition move, was disclosed in Parliament yesterday. Mr Levitt, who moved to New York with his

family last year, was arrested and subsequently released on \$1 million bail, after it emerged that the alleged offence — furnishing false information to DTI inspectors — was not covered by the US-UK extradition treaty.

Nigel Griffiths, Consumer Affairs Minister, told Parliament that the extradition request had been made on advice from independent counsel. He added: "In the light of

arguments presented on behalf of Mr Levitt, my department has reviewed the decision... and concluded that the extradition request... be withdrawn."

Warrants remain open in the UK for Mr Levitt's arrest in connection with the false information charge. He is also charged with serving as a shadow director of a boxing promotion group — in defiance of a disqualification order of 1993.

UK equity bargains lure fund managers

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

FUND managers are returning to the UK equity market in search of bargains after the recent stock market tumble. The monthly Merrill Lynch Gallup survey of UK fund managers showed buying interest among institutions at its strongest level for two years while institutional cash balances are also high.

Fund managers also strongly favour gilts, reflecting expectations that recent rate rises will slow the economy over the next year. Trevor Greenham, global strategist at Merrill Lynch, said: "The message is that 1997 problems are not the same as in 1987. Fund managers are keen on buying gilts as they are expecting growth to slow and this is providing some support to equity prices."

The FTSE 100 yesterday made modest gains, closing up 42.5 points at 4,206 after an early rise on Wall Street.

High street sales bounced back last month after a weak September, a new British Retail Consortium survey published today shows. The annual value of retail sales increased 5 per cent on a like-for-like basis compared with growth of just 2.1 per cent in September.

Andrew Higginson, chairman of the BRC economic affairs committee, said that there were few signs in the data to suggest overheating or inflationary pressure for the wider economy. Separate data showed pipeline inflation pressures remain subdued with raw material prices falling 0.2 per cent in October.

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Beckett to name poor performing industries

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

The Government will today identify key sectors of British industry that need to improve their performance in order to increase the UK's economic competitiveness.

Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, will detail government studies of seven industrial areas that, for the first time, will make clear their weaknesses as well as praising their strengths.

Competitiveness UK - a Benchmark for Business will show that the main companies in Britain suffer in comparison with high-performing firms in other European countries. A White Paper on the issue is planned next year.

Mrs Beckett will tell the Confederation of British Industry's annual conference in Birmingham that while many industrial sectors have great strengths, to ignore their weaknesses would run the risk of seeing no improvements in their performance.

On Britain's £12 billion mo-

tor components industry, for instance, the Department of Trade and Industry's analysis will say that "overall levels of productivity performance remain substantially lower" than other countries, with lower levels of investment.

Citing the "relatively poor" performance of the sector, the Government will show that UK companies have been slower than their competitors in responding to market conditions. On printing, the DTI will say that many printers "still rely on old, mechanical processes. In these firms costs are high, skills are limited and marketing poor".

Retailing has seen high investment in new technology, but some UK retailers have been "slow" to expand overseas, unlike foreign retailers moving to the UK.

Semiconductor manufacturing will be particularly praised and the DTI will say that when planned investments come fully on stream, Britain is expected to overtake Germany and become the largest manufacturer of semiconductors in Europe. But the Government will say that the UK's growth in this sector is directly attributable to success in attracting inward investment, mentioning companies such as Siemens.

The sharp criticisms in the DTI's sectoral reports - the others are on chemicals, telecommunications and textiles - are likely to provoke angry responses from sectors keen to defend their record.

Mrs Beckett will also announce the formation of six business-based working parties that will aim to find solutions to long-term problems in business. The groups will focus on short-termism, low productivity, lack of innovation, poor educational standards and low research and development investment.

CBI conference, page 15



Dick Brown, left, chairman, and Graham Wallace, announce doubling of CWC profits

Sky package offer for all CWC subscribers

By Raymond Snoddy, Media Editor

A PAY-PER-VIEW movie service will be offered to the more than one million subscribers of Cable & Wireless Communications, the largest cable group. Even those who take the cheapest discount service will be eligible.

Headstart, the service, gives customers at least five cable channels, on top of the main broadcast channel, plus a telephone line for £11.99 a month.

Graham Wallace, chief executive of CWC, said the issue was one of those that had to be sorted out in the negotiations with BSkyB before the

two organisations agreed last week to mount a joint launch of 200-channel digital television in the UK next spring. As part of the overall deal CWC will take Sky Box Office, the pay-per-view service that will ensure that viewers are no more than 30 minutes away from seeing any of the top 10-15 films for £2.50 or £3.

Mr Wallace said yesterday that BSkyB, in which News International, owner of *The Times*, has a 40 per cent stake, had wanted to ensure that only subscribers to the premium film channels should be able to view Sky Box Office.

The launch would be phased, although Mr Wallace said that by the year 2000 all CWC subscribers would have the option of digital channels.

Mr Wallace announced that CWC's pre-tax profits for the six months to September 30 had doubled to £65 million before non-recurring items. Operating profit increased by 62 per cent to £123 million and earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation rose by 23 per cent to £335 million. The share price rose 5p yesterday to 253p.

Tempos, page 32

Tecs told to repay £5m as NVQs are withdrawn

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

TWENTY-EIGHT training and enterprise councils will today be told to repay £5 million to the Government as 1,600 national vocational qualifications are withdrawn.

The Tecs have been summoned to the Department for Education and Employment where Kim Howells, the Education and Employment Minister in charge of training, will tell them that the quality control watchdog for education for the over-16s has vetoed NVQs from a road transport training provider.

The ultimatum from Dr Howells for the Tecs to pay back cash allocated to that provider comes after his pledge last month to crack down on fraudulence and maladministration.

The training provider at the centre of today's move - the Road Transport Industry Training Board Service Ltd (RTIBS) - is under police investigation for alleged fraud. But the Government is thought to be determined to act now to stem the increasing controversy over the mishandling of cash by Tecs which have an annual budget of £1.5 billion of public money. The RTIBS was last year stopped from trading temporarily after an investigation into some of its NVQs was begun the previous year. The business has a training provider subsidiary called Centrex.

Dr Howells decided to demand cash back from the Tecs after the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, the overseer of standards in training for the over-16s, decided to withdraw 1,600 NVQs in level three motor vehicle maintenance. But it is not clear how many of these NVQs have actually been awarded amid the controversy over maladministration training that has dogged the Tec movement.

Last month Dr Howells singled out Centrex, the central England training provider, for attention warning that its licence could be removed.

Chandler challenge to Mayflower

SIR COLIN CHANDLER, Vickers chairman, angrily called on Mayflower to end the shadow-bidding that has followed last week's revelation of a possible hostile bid for Vickers. He said: "A muddle has been created on this matter and Mayflower urgently needs to clarify its position." Lazarus, the adviser to Vickers, has spoken to the Takeover Panel in an attempt to force Mayflower's hand.

However, the Mayflower camp was adamant last night that it would continue to take its time mulling options. Speculation that BMW may mount a bid for Vickers was roundly dismissed yesterday. The German carmaker could still co-operate closely with Mayflower if the car-panels group mounted a successful bid.

Filofax recovery

FRESH designs helped Filofax, the personal organiser company, to lift interim profits 9 per cent, to £2.24 million in the six months to September 30, setting it on course for a complete recovery at the full year. Robin Field, chief executive, said autumn trading had been strong, although the strength of sterling had cost Filofax about £500,000. It expects to make £6.6 million for the full year, just above its 1996 record. Earnings were 5.4p (4.8p) a share and the interim dividend is 1.65p (1.5p).

Stratagem amendment

STRATAGEM, the diversified industrial group, has published an amendment to its 1996 accounts in its 1997 accounts after an investigation by the Financial Reporting Review Panel. The panel said that a table in the 1996 accounts showing assets and liabilities of NRC Refrigeration, acquired by Stratagem in January 1996, did not fully meet the requirements of the FR56 accounting standard, which was designed to improve the information provided by companies on takeovers and mergers.

Ericsson £20m contract

ERICSSON, the Swedish telecoms group, has won a five-year £20 million contract from Rascal Telecom to replace the voice communications network used by UK rail operators. The contract includes the provision of 270 MD110 PBXs, with an initial 15,000 lines being installed in offices, stations and goods yards of the private rail companies. Ericsson will also upgrade Rascal Telecom's AKE public switching platform, which provides interconnection to BT and other network operators.

Jefferson Smurfit deal

JEFFERSON SMURFIT announced that Smurfit Packaging Corporation, its wholly-owned subsidiary, has completed the sale of its American plastic drum division, to Russell Stanley Holdings Inc for \$70 million (£41.5 million), payable in cash. The disposal of the plastics division will result in an exceptional profit of more than \$40 million. The plastic drum division consists of five American plant locations with annual sales in 1996 of approximately \$65 million.

Irish jobs boost

BOSTON SCIENTIFIC, an American healthcare company, has promised to create more than 2,000 jobs in the Irish Republic. The company is investing £140 million (£36 million) in a new factory in Cork for the manufacture of medical instruments, and the expansion of an existing plant in Galway. The 2,050 new jobs will be shared almost equally between the two "locations". Boston Scientific opened in Galway three years ago.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.82	2.83
Austria Sch	21.32	18.87
Belgium Fr	65.80	67.84
Canada \$	2.494	2.506
Cyprus Cyp	0.882	0.892
Denmark Kr	11.28	10.88
Finland Mk	6.35	6.30
France Fr	10.1	9.39
Germany Dm	3.26	3.20
Greece Dr	480	441
Hong Kong \$	13.85	12.85
Iceland	128	108
Ireland P	1.16	1.07
Israel Sh	0.32	0.31
Italy Lira	2008	2008
Japan Yen	204.25	204.25
Malta	0.676	0.671
Netherlands Gld	3.448	3.185
New Zealand \$	2.88	2.88
Norway Kr	12.35	11.44
Portugal Esc	207.53	207.53
S Africa Rd	5.84	5.78
Spain Ptas	205.29	205.29
Sweden Kr	10.45	9.84
Switzerland Fr	2.80	2.35
Turkey Lira	319200	289725
USA \$	1.781	1.781

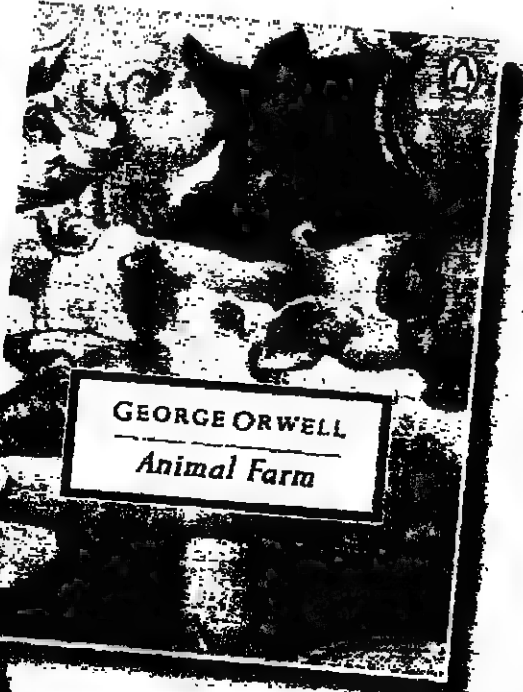
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will make ideal stocking fillers. They include *Jacob's Room* by Virginia Woolf, *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys and *The Trial* by Franz Kafka.



LEFT: Blanche Dubois fights the furies of destitution, insult and madness

ABOVE: One of the great modern political allegories



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Smug BT free to ring C&W



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

A \$2.7 billion profit on a failed takeover is good news in anybody's book. Even if it is at the cost of the whole of your global strategy. The BT fatcats were putting a brave face on it yesterday — even seeming a bit smug. The \$7.5 billion WorldCom paid BT to walk away from MCI will now burn a hole in the pockets of Sir Peter Bonfield and Sir Iain Vallance. And though they hinted there might be a share buyback, the biggest surprise yesterday was that Cable & Wireless's stock only rose a paltry 3½ per cent. BT liked the look of C&W before it set its cap at MCI. Now BT's American engagement is over, what price the oriental and Caribbean attractions of C&W?

Because, while BT can claim a moral and financial victory in the MCI saga, the main profit for BT has been to learn its limitations. Though it is a monster by British standards, it stands at no better than shoulder height in the US. Tempted by the world's largest telecoms market, it found itself to be a relatively small fish in a tank full of sharks. It admitted as much yesterday, saying that US firms are bound to have more synergies with each other than they have with someone from outside the US. BT has a deal for MCI to distribute its products in the US — an agreement it is free to tear up if it receives a better offer — and still controls its Concert joint venture with MCI.

And if BT's management has any sense that should be enough, US telecommunications looks like a licence to lose money.

So where does BT go instead? In the UK the regulatory environment may become more liberal with the passing of Don Cruickshank, but that does not mean BT will be allowed to hold onto the sort of dominant stake in the UK cable communications market currently held by C&W. This may make bidding for C&W a great deal more tricky than it was a year ago. In Europe, whatever anyone says about the single market, national interests appear to be thwarting any hopes BT might have to expand. So maybe it should be looking towards Asia and South America, areas in which C&W has somewhat of a foothold.

So C&W looks attractive. But would BT be allowed to have it? As WorldCom showed yesterday — where there is a will, there is a way. BT might persuade the regulators that if it sold C&W's holding in CWC Communications, which owns all the cable interests, it might be allowed to buy the rest of C&W. This would be a great solution for BT.

After all BT does not really want cable interests. It believes it

has the technology that will make cable irrelevant. It may not be allowed to own media assets, but it can make the sort of deals with programme makers that have been struck by the cable company and by BSkyB. A C&W deal would have the advantage of soaking up BT's spare cash, boosting its global ambitions and leaving it free to concentrate on its domestic priority of grinding the cable companies into the dust.

Sir Colin in the driving seat

It is a bit rich of Sir Colin Chandler to launch an offensive over Mayflower's "muddle" over whether it is going to launch a hostile bid for Vickers. After all, it was Sir Colin who owned John Simpson's plans for Vickers before the Mayflower boss was ready to push the button. The "muddle" this cre-

ated is exactly what Sir Colin wanted. It is a legitimate tactic of a putative target to wringfoot the potential bidder in the hope of derailing the offer before it can be put to shareholders. After all, they might accept it.

Mayflower's misfortune is to be caught up in the contradictory comments of BMW. Bidding for a company twice your size is a sort of 1980s thing to do and would be difficult enough without the recent market turmoil and last week's interest rate rise. Some commentators (though, perhaps critically, not many of Mayflower's institutional investors) think Mayflower needs a strategic partner. And BMW, for whom Mayflower makes the bodywork on Rover's MGF sports cars, would fit the bill. The statement by Bernd Pischke, BMW's chairman, that "we have nothing to do with this Mayflower bid" has a similar ring to Daimler-Benz's denial, two weeks ago, of any interest in

buying Rolls-Royce. These are comments that may not stand the test of time.

To suggest that BMW might buy Vickers, or even provide financial backing for Mayflower's bid for Vickers, is plainly ridiculous. Why? The answer is Cosworth, the specialist business which provides motor racing services to a whole range of manufacturers, but mainly Ford. Should BMW end up as even a partial owner of Cosworth, half that operation's business might walk out of the door. Therefore, if BMW has been lending any encouragement to Mayflower, perhaps agreeing a price for Rolls-Royce should the Mayflower offer succeed, it cannot be seen to be doing so.

Confused? Then consider the position of the other car manufacturers. Daimler, Chrysler and Ford are all said to be sniffing around Rolls-Royce and any one of them could be Mayflower's partner. But given Mayflower's

close relationship with BMW, it would not want to be seen stepping out with any of its rivals for fear this could queer its chances of future BMW business. Mayflower is playing a dangerous game. Sir Colin Chandler knows this and is exploiting Mayflower's discomfort to the maximum advantage of Vickers.

Bo says go on Intrum mbo

Intrum Justitia is not your average sort of company. The debt collector has a Latin name, is run by Swedes, headquartered in The Netherlands and listed in London. If you ask the man on the Clapham omnibus what it does, he will probably answer: "Yacht racing".

Bo Goranson, Intrum's chairman, has learnt an uncomfortable truth about the City. If it doesn't understand you, it won't love you. After seven years of uninspiring performance, Intrum shares were undermined by a poor set of half-year figures, dropping from 129p to 71½p. And there they would have languished, had Bo not decided to launch a management buyout.

Now Bo is about to learn another truth about the City. It might not love you while you're listed, but if you try to buy the company back, it will hate you. Institutional investors have a fundamental mistrust of the managements that run the companies in which they invest. Try to buy your company off them, and they suddenly decide that they have undervalued it all along. Accordingly, Intrum shares shot up more than 20 per cent yesterday, once the new buyout offer leaked out.

What will now ensue is a squabble over the price. As Bo owns 34 per cent already and United News & Media 21 per cent, he has a good chance of winning control of the company. But it only needs investors holding 6.6 per cent or more to block him from taking it private. Intrum's voyage to privacy is only just beginning.

Spicing up EMI

IT'S official. "Girl Power" is dead. First Barbie and Ken knock the Spice Girls from number one in the charts. Then *Spiceworld*, the album, suffers disappointing sales. Finally, Ginger Spice falls out with their manager, raising question marks about the band's future. And the City's reaction? It marks up shares in EMI, the Girls' record label. Maybe the feeling is that demise of Spice will make EMI more vulnerable to a bid.



Sir John Egan, chief executive of BAA, with security staff in a new uniform that is due to be launched this month

Strong pound hits BAA duty and tax-free sales

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE strength of the pound has hit duty and tax-free sales of alcohol and gifts at Britain's main airports as overseas passengers find goods cheaper in their local shops.

BAA, the airports operator, said that overseas passengers had turned against airport purchases, which showed a 2 per cent fall for each international passenger.

Sales of alcohol per international passenger fell 6.3 per cent in the six months to September, while gift sales also showed a 3.6 per cent drop, bringing a 1.7 per cent decrease per passenger. However, increases in passenger numbers, together with improved tobacco and perfume sales, brought a 6 per cent rise

in tax and duty free sales, to £134.2 million.

The disclosure came as BAA reported interim results showing a 7.4 per cent rise in passenger numbers, helping to raise pre-tax profits 2 per cent to £310 million in the six months ended September 30.

The interim dividend is lifted 8.9 per cent to 4.9p. Earnings were 13.2p a share, after taking into account the £102 million windfall tax imposed on BAA by the Government compared with 22.2p. Retail income grew 8 per cent, to £242.1 million, on the back of increased passenger traffic.

Duty free sales are becoming an increasingly important part of BAA's business since the £423 million acquisition in

August of Duty Free International, the leading US duty free company. The expansion of BAA's subsidiary World Duty Free, which runs 20 duty free stores at BAA's airports, is intended to attract sales of £120 million.

Sir John Egan, BAA's chief executive, said that the slowdown in duty free sales was "a one-off. I wouldn't have expected this to be a long-term on-going problem. We have had this problem before."

Sir John voiced confidence in the company's six-month results, which were backed by increases in passenger numbers at each of BAA's seven UK airports. Southampton, with a 15 per cent growth, Gatwick (11.7) and Glasgow (11.3)

led the way. At Heathrow a 4.5 per cent increase in passengers was achieved with a 0.5 per cent rise in the number of planes using the airport.

BAA adjusted its figures to take into account the windfall tax, the repaying of £16 million in airport charge income to the second half of the year, and a £7 million increase in interest charged against profits because interest is no longer being capitalised on project to build a fifth terminal at Heathrow. BAA said that a direct comparison with last year showed a 9.8 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from £297 million to £326 million.

Tempus, page 32

Murdoch says Lachlan likely to be successor

By RAYMOND SNOODY, MEDIA EDITOR

RUPERT MURDOCH, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, the international media group, has given his clearest indication so far that his successor could be his 26-year-old son Lachlan.

Lachlan Murdoch, as executive chairman of News Corp's Australian interests, has the most senior position in the group of the next generation of family members. Elisabeth Murdoch is general manager of

British Sky Broadcasting and James Murdoch heads the group's new media activities.

In an interview for *Sky High*, a new book on BSkyB by Mathew Horsman to be published this month, Mr Murdoch said: "The succession at News Corporation depends on how long I stay *compos mentis*."

Mr Murdoch, who revealed last year that the family stake in News Corp of about 35 per

cent had already been transferred to the three children, said in the interview: "The kids have those shares now. It will be up to them." The chairman of News Corp added: "Currently it is their consensus that Lachlan will take over. He will be the first among equals, but they will all have to prove themselves."

News Corp, parent company of *The Times*, owns News International, which has a 40 per cent stake in BSkyB.

In the interview for the book, Mr Murdoch expressed an element of doubt over this succession scenario, saying it was "not fully answered in my own mind". He was also frank about the current corporate position of Elisabeth Murdoch.

Asked whether his daughter would run BSkyB, he replied: "No. Elisabeth is not ready yet. And she has some things to work out. She has to decide how many kids she is going to have, where she wants to live." *Sky High* will be published by Orion on November 24.

Redland bid deadline extended

By CHRIS AYLES

LAFARGE, the French building materials group, yesterday extended the deadline for its hostile 320p-a-share offer for Redland and criticised the company for not having produced "anything of substance" to rival its bid.

The offer from Lafarge, which values its UK rival at £1.7 billion, expires at 3pm on November 21. Speculation has heightened over what tactics will be used by Redland, which must present a defence plan to shareholders within the next two weeks. So far Lafarge has received acceptances for only 0.71 per cent of Redland's equity.

Redland shares now trade above the 320p price offered by Lafarge. However, they are still roughly half their value of three years ago.

According to reports at the weekend, Redland is considering an £800 million offer from St Gobain, the French glass and building materials group, for RBB, its majority owned tile business.

Hilton stands by its \$9.3bn bid for ITT

HILTON Hotels Corporation, the US hotels and gaming group, has decided not to raise the stakes in the battle for control of ITT Corporation, which owns the Sheraton Hotels chain (Dominic Walsh writes).

Hilton insisted that its \$9.3 billion (£5.5 billion) bid offered ITT shareholders a better deal than the \$10.2 billion put on the table on Friday by Starwood Lodging because it contained a greater cash element.

Tomorrow ITT shareholders must decide whether to re-elect the existing board of directors or install a new board put forward by Hilton. Steve Bollenbach, Hilton chief executive, reiterated yesterday that if they were re-elected he would drop out of the bidding, leaving the way clear for Starwood.

PW 'will be winner' in proposed merger

By ROBERT BRUCE

PRICE WATERHOUSE will be the clear winner in the proposed £8 billion merger with Coopers & Lybrand, according to documents circulated to the accountancy firms' 8,500 partners worldwide.

Jim Schiro, global chief executive of PW, and proposed head of the enlarged Coopers/PW, could hold the post for seven years under proposals to be put to the vote by partners before the end of the month. Another PW American partner, Woody Brittain, would be responsible for such crucial areas as audit, tax and business assurance. Ian Brindle, UK senior partner of PW, would become head of global risk management. Peter Smith, who runs Coopers in the UK, gets a look-in as global industry leader.

The proposed merger, which has yet to be cleared by regulators in America, Japan and the European Union, would potentially create one of the world's biggest professional services firms.

The documents say little about the threatened rationalisation that has led a Coopers & Lybrand partner in America to circulate a memo claiming the whole process is a Price Waterhouse takeover and that 1,200 Coopers partners around the world are under threat.

Mr Schiro has said the enlarged firm could enjoy fee income growth of 20 per cent a year — a view endorsed by the documents. They emphasise the extraordinary predicted growth in global professional services, saying that global reach and heavy investment are the only way to ensure

market share. Predictions suggest the \$300 billion professional services market could double in the next five years. The combined firm would have revenues of \$13 billion for 1997 giving it four per cent of the global market.

It is the investment required that is most heavily emphasised. The enlarged firm will require "serious money" to live up to its mission statement of becoming "the leading global professional services organisation, solving complex business problems for top tier clients in global, national and local markets".

The merger, it concludes, is "the best non-cash 'big leap' forward", avoiding time-consuming and costly alternatives. The result of the vote is expected in the middle of next month.

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Accor plans £800m hotel expansion in United Kingdom

BY DOMINIC WALSH

ACCOR, the French hotel and catering combine, has unveiled plans to open up to 150 hotels in the UK over the next five years at a total cost of between £600 million and £800 million.

The biggest project will be a £50 million hotel on London's Pall Mall to be developed by Marylebone Warwick Balfour (MWB), the property group. The 200-bedroom property, which has yet to gain planning consent, would become the first UK hotel to carry Accor's upmarket Sofitel brandname.

Peter Leather, Accor UK's director of development, said: "We're planning two hotels a month for the next five years." He said the Pall Mall project was one of at least three Sofitel hotels planned, with further

sites under negotiation in Edinburgh and the outskirts of London. There was also the possibility of a site in Birmingham.

Accor, which already has 35 hotels here under the Novotel, Ibis and Formule 1 brands, is investigating a variety of funding options, including sale and leaseback deals, equity participation from private individuals and institutions or a flotation of some or all of its UK assets.

Mr Leather said the five-year opening programme envisaged at least 20 new Novotels, 40 Ibis properties and 80 Formule 1 budget lodges, the latter charging about £22 a room for up to three people. He said there would be half a dozen Formule

1 units in London, including one near the Blackwall Tunnel in Docklands.

The London Sofitel scheme involves the conversion of a Grade II-listed office building on the corner of Pall Mall and Waterloo Place that previously housed Lloyd's Bank's Cox & Kings branch. MWB is to acquire a long leasehold on behalf of Accor subject to planning, and will manage the site's development. Funding will be arranged by Accor.

A planning application will be submitted shortly and MWB hopes to begin construction at the end of next summer. The four-star hotel will be on six floors, while the lower ground floor will sub-let to independent restaurant operators.



Michael Paterson, the finance director of the Oriental Restaurant Group, and Hock Ann Chua at the Sri India restaurant in the City

Oriental offers air fare

BY DOMINIC WALSH

ORIENTAL Restaurant Group, which floated a year ago, has opened a restaurant at Gatwick airport's north terminal.

The 80-cover outlet, called the Gatwick Oriental, opened last week within the airport's Le Méridien hotel after the company secured a lease from Granada Group. It spent £50,000 fitting out the

premises. Hock Ann Chua, managing director of the London restaurant operator, hinted that further deals with Granada were under discussion and one involving Le Méridien at Heathrow seemed likely.

The group operates three Thai and one Chinese restaurant and recently opened the Sri India in the City. A further

restaurant is scheduled to open in Bishopsgate next year and other projects will be announced soon.

The news came as the Oriental reported pre-tax profits up by a third to £701,000 in the half year to September 30, from turnover up 13 per cent at £3.69 million.

On a like-for-like basis, the number of covers increased 11 per cent, while spending per head improved by 4 per cent. Changlue, the company's Asian wholesale grocery business, moved from a loss of £4,000 to a profit of £48,000. Earnings per share dropped from 5.6p to 5.1p on a near 40 per cent increase in share capital. An interim dividend of 1.2p (1.0p) will be paid January 19.

Intel invests in small UK technology firm

BY JASON NISSE

INTEL, the giant US chip maker whose components are a key element of most of the world's personal computers, yesterday revealed an investment in the small British firm that is leading the world in the technology of light-emitting polymers.

Cambridge Display Technology (CDT), which was founded after initial research by the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University, claims to lead the world in the technology, which is designed to allow computer or mobile phones to have high-resolution screens.

CDT has licensed the technology to a number of leading manufacturers. The fruits of this are expected to show early next year with the first products using CDT screens: a mobile phone made by Philips and a prototype video-quality screen for portable computers that is expected to be unveiled in Tokyo in January.

The size of Intel's investment is not being declared, but it is expected to be not less than £5.6 million invested in CDT earlier this year by a consortium led by Lord Young of Graffham, the former cabinet minister and chairman of Cable & Wireless, and including Genesis, the rock group, and Herman Hauser, founder of Acorn Computers. Lord Young told *The Times*: "The

deal is very exciting and shows that we are making good progress."

Danny Chappell, the chief executive of CDT, said: "Intel processors go into every laptop in the world and this is the first flat screen technology they have chosen to invest in. It would be nice to put 'Intel inside' on our products."

The light-emitting polymer technology was discovered in Cambridge in 1990 and CDT was created with the backing of Cambridge University in 1992. The Intel investment will be used to help fund further research led by Richard Friend, the Cavendish Professor at the University.

Intrum shares higher on bid approach 'by chairman'

BY MARTIN BARRON

SHARES in Intrum Justitia rose 17p to 91p after the company, Europe's largest debt collector, confirmed it had received a bid approach.

Although Intrum declined to disclose the identity of the potential bidder, attention has focused on Bo Goranson, the chairman, who has a 34 per cent stake in the company.

Mr Goranson, who brought the Curacao company to the London market, is known to have been disappointed by the poor performance of the shares this year. The shares made their debut in London seven years ago at 81p.

In the last full financial year Intrum earned pre-tax profits of £13.12 million on turnover of £104 million. At yesterday's price the company is capitalised at £95.4 million.

Intrum has a narrow shareholder base. United News & Media holds 21 per cent. Fidelity is also a major shareholder.

Commentary, page 31



Bo Goranson is disappointed by shares progress

Government acts to reassure world markets

Brazil cuts budget by \$18bn

BY GEORGE SIVELL

BRAZIL yesterday sought to reassure world financial markets with an \$18 billion (£10.62 billion) cut in its national budget. The cuts will be achieved by reduced spending and import tax rises.

The move came amid increasing market concern that the Brazilian real is overvalued and that, if put to the test in the way that Far Eastern currencies have since July, it would not be possible to defend its present value. Brazil has high deficits on its national budget and in its current account of trading with other nations. Analysts believe that this adds to

up to an over-valuation of the real of as much as 30 per cent.

The Brazilian Government wants to keep the real high as part of a three-year drive against inflation and has vowed to defend the currency whatever the cost. Before the opening of Brazilian markets, Pedro Malan, the Finance Minister, said: "The Government has decided to implement a rigorous fiscal adjustment plan that goes into effect immediately."

The measures we are announcing involve cuts in expenditures as well as increases in revenue and represent a fiscal gain of 20 billion reais (\$18 billion). The package includes the layoff of federal

workers. It follows an earlier attempt to steady market nerves. On October 30, Brazil more than doubled prime interest rates to 43 per cent after market intervention failed to support the real.

Economists say that the package could throw Brazil into recession in the first three months of next year, but they believe it could be enough to soothe market perceptions of the country.

Other Latin American nations hope the plan works. If Brazil fails to support the real the consequent devaluation would drag South American into a recession on a scale last seen after the 1994 Mexican peso crisis.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PETROLEUM AND SUBMARINE PIPELINES ACT 1975

Notice of Application for a Submarine Pipeline Works Authorisation

Elf Exploration UK PLC hereby gives notice on behalf of itself, in accordance with the provisions of Part I of Schedule 4 to the Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Act 1975 that it has made an application to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for the grant of an authorisation for the construction and use of a pipeline between a tie-in point at the Elgin/Franklin and Shearwater fields and the Low Water Mark at the Bacton natural gas terminal at Norfolk.

A map (or maps) delineating the route of the proposed pipeline and providing certain further information may be inspected free of charge at the places listed in the Schedule to this notice from 10am to 4pm on each weekday from the date that this notice is published until the date mentioned in the next paragraph of this notice.

Pursuant to a direction of the Secretary of State, representations with respect to the application may be made in writing and addressed to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry at the Oil and Gas Office, Atholl House, 86-88 Guild Street, Aberdeen, AB11 6AR (marked FAO Ian Furneaux, Offshore Pipeline Authorisations) not later than 9th, December 1997 and should bear the reference "ABE 10/1/SEAL" and state the grounds upon which the representations are made.

Dated: 3rd, November 1997

MK Fraser, Company Secretary, Elf Exploration UK PLC.

SCHEDULE TO THE NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION PLACES WHERE A MAP OR MAPS MAY BE INSPECTED

Elf Exploration UK PLC
1 Claymore Drive
Bridges of Don
Aberdeen AB23 8GB

Department of Trade & Industry
Oil and Gas Office
4th Floor, Atholl House
86-88 Guild Street
Aberdeen AB11 6AR

Fisheries Office
46 Fore Street
Newlyn
Penzance TR18 5JR

Fishery Office
Alexandra Buildings
Lerwick
Shetland

Fishery Office
Harbour Terrace
Wick
Aberdeen AB11 5HB

Fisheries Office
Fish Market
Rock-a-Nore Road
Hastings
East Sussex TN34 3DW

Sea Fisheries Inspectorate
Rocks 142
Pierhead House
47 Robb's Loan
Edinburgh EH14 1TW

Scottish Fishermen's Federation
14 Regent Quay
Aberdeen AB11 5AE

Fisheries Office
5 Hamilton Terrace
Milford Haven
Dyfed SA73 2AL

Fishery Office
22 East Shore
Plymouth
Fife

Scottish Fisheries Protection
Agency
Fishery Office
58 High Street
Aberdeen AB11 1AW

Fisheries Office
Newville House
Central Riverside
Bell Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear NE30 1HN

Fishery Office
5 Albert Quay
Aberdeen AB1 2QA

Fishery Office
19 Seaford Road
Preston
Aberdeen AB4 5AR

Fisheries Office
Old Harbour
The Quay
Peebles
Dorset BN15 1HP

Fishery Office
Kiln House
Sengale
Petershead AB4 6JP

National Federation of
Fishermen's Organisations
Marine Road
Grimsby
South Humberside DN31 3JG

Fisheries Office
141 Cleethorpe Road
Grimsby
South Humberside

Fishery Office
1 Queen Street
Buckie
Banffshire AB5 1QL

Fishery Office
1 Marine Parade
Eymouth TD15 5HR

Fisheries Office
Balcic Chambers
2 Waverley Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk NR32 1BN

Highlands and Islands
Fishermen's Association
Aberdeen
Southcarron
Ross-shire IV54 8XA

Fisheries Office
Crown Buildings
Peebles
Gwynedd LL5 5LP

Fisheries Office
Fish Quay
Plymouth PL4 0LH

Orkney Fisheries Association
c/o Development Office
School Place
Kirkwall
Orkney

TECHNICAL ANNEX

At the request of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and as agreed by the Pipelines Inspectorate branch of the Health and Safety Executive, Elf Exploration UK PLC presents the following information about the SEAL gas export pipeline:

Pre-commissioning Testing

The pipeline will be tested to the satisfaction of the Pipelines Inspectorate prior to commissioning.

Design Pressure

The maximum pressure in the line will be less than the pressure for which the pipeline has been designed.

Leak Detection

Pressure and flow will be monitored at all times. In the event of a leak being detected the pipeline pressure will be reduced to control the leak. An aerial and underwater survey will be conducted to find the source of the leak. Routine surveillance will be carried out along the pipeline route.

Emergency Action

In the event a major break occurs in the pipeline the following emergency action will be taken:

- All product delivery into the pipeline will be manually or automatically stopped.
- The Pipelines Inspectorate will be notified immediately.
- An underwater survey and aerial survey will be carried out to determine the location of the break.
- Should pollution result from the discharge of the product the emergency pollution control system held in constant readiness by the UK Offshore Operators Association will be mobilised.

Recommissioning

In the event of a pipeline break, contingency plans to be agreed with the Pipelines Inspectorate will be carried out for the repairing of the pipeline and proving its integrity before putting it back into service.

On Bottom Stability and Safety

The pipeline, if authorised, will be laid in a manner that ensures its safety and stability under all foreseeable conditions.

Limits of Deviation

The pipeline will be laid within a boundary of 250 metres on either side of the proposed route.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE NOTICE THAT I, the undersigned, have been appointed as the Liquidator of the following companies: *THE COMPANY LIMITED* (Incorporated in England and Wales) and *THE COMPANY LIMITED* (Incorporated in England and Wales). The Liquidator's office is at 1, The Quadrant, London, EC4A 3DF. The Liquidator's telephone number is 020 7460 1234. The Liquidator's fax number is 020 7460 1235. The Liquidator's e-mail address is liquidator@thequadrant.co.uk. The Liquidator's website is <http://www.thequadrant.co.uk>. The Liquidator's business hours are 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. The Liquidator's contact person is Mr. John Smith. The Liquidator's contact telephone number is 020 7460 1234. The Liquidator's contact fax number is 020 7460 1235. The Liquidator's contact e-mail address is john.smith@thequadrant.co.uk. The Liquidator's contact website is <http://www.thequadrant.co.uk>. The Liquidator's contact business hours are 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

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THE TIMES
Portfolio

£2,000 to be won

Check the numbers on your Portfolio card and find your eight stocks in the Portfolio panel below. In the column provided next to your eight shares enter the share movements as published on this page. Ignore fractions, ie enter 16½ as 16 (the symbol - means no change). After listing the price changes of your eight shares, add or subtract as appropriate to find your total which can be plus or minus. If your overall total matches exactly the points required for the daily dividend you win or share the £1,000 daily prize.

No	Company	Group	Years
1	FS Cons	Mining	
2	Hambro	Oil Ref	
3	Natl Express	Transport	
4	Shell	Refining	
5	LASMO	Oil & Gas	
6	Mercury-Sw	Electric	
7	Seven Tyne	Water	
8	Jacobs	Transport	
9	Brundage	Transport	
10	New Eng Corp	Media	
11	Tesco	Ret Food	
12	Brent Chems	Chemicals	
13	Hallifax	Chemicals	
14	EM&F	Media	
15	Sun Life & P	Insurance	
16	Borah Centrl	Off & Gas	
17	Johns Manb	Sep Serv	
18	Bumind Int	Oil Ref	
19	Grand Airt	Air Bus	
20	Beazer	Res & Com	
21	Bank Scotiab	Bank	
22	Lloyds TSB	Bank	
23	Oriel	Insurance	
24	Gibson	Chemicals	
25	Chesley	Oil & Gas	
26	Southern Elec	Electric	
27	Oregon Oil	Oil & Gas	
28	Smithline	Pharm-Ch	
29	Starkey	DIV Inds	
30	McIrdie	House Bld	
31	Guinoces	Air Bus	
32	Enterprise	Oil & Gas	
33	Petrols Food	Food Man	
34	Blue Bird	Media	
35	Parpetual	Off Rm	
36	Bank Calif	Bank	
37	West Hous	Property	
38	Terron	Health	
39	Anglian	Water	
40	Kingsfisher	Ret Gen	
41	Williams	Sep Serv	
42	UNO	Ret Gen	
43	MITE GP	Sep Serv	
44	Pizzarel	Breweries	

Portfolio
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+44
Claims required for +44 pts
Claimants should ring
0171-481 3388
between 9.30am-3pm

Weekly Dividend.
Please make a pot of your daily totals to match the weekly dividend published in the Sunday Times to win £5,000.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
Weekly accumulator total						-

There were no winners of Monday's £1,000 prize. The prize is now £2,000.

[illegible]

TRANSPORT


250	189P-104 Lockheed	200	-	37	-
251	274 104 Wagon Air	201	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
252	189P-104 Lockheed	202	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
253	189P-104 Lockheed	203	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
254	189P-104 Lockheed	204	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
255	189P-104 Lockheed	205	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
256	189P-104 Lockheed	206	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
257	189P-104 Lockheed	207	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
258	189P-104 Lockheed	208	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
259	189P-104 Lockheed	209	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
260	189P-104 Lockheed	210	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
261	189P-104 Lockheed	211	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
262	189P-104 Lockheed	212	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
263	189P-104 Lockheed	213	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
264	189P-104 Lockheed	214	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
265	189P-104 Lockheed	215	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
266	189P-104 Lockheed	216	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
267	189P-104 Lockheed	217	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
268	189P-104 Lockheed	218	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
269	189P-104 Lockheed	219	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
270	189P-104 Lockheed	220	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
271	189P-104 Lockheed	221	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
272	189P-104 Lockheed	222	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
273	189P-104 Lockheed	223	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
274	189P-104 Lockheed	224	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
275	189P-104 Lockheed	225	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
276	189P-104 Lockheed	226	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
277	189P-104 Lockheed	227	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
278	189P-104 Lockheed	228	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
279	189P-104 Lockheed	229	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
280	189P-104 Lockheed	230	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
281	189P-104 Lockheed	231	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
282	189P-104 Lockheed	232	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
283	189P-104 Lockheed	233	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
284	189P-104 Lockheed	234	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
285	189P-104 Lockheed	235	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
286	189P-104 Lockheed	236	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
287	189P-104 Lockheed	237	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
288	189P-104 Lockheed	238	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
289	189P-104 Lockheed	239	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
290	189P-104 Lockheed	240	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
291	189P-104 Lockheed	241	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
292	189P-104 Lockheed	242	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
293	189P-104 Lockheed	243	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
294	189P-104 Lockheed	244	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
295	189P-104 Lockheed	245	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
296	189P-104 Lockheed	246	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
297	189P-104 Lockheed	247	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
298	189P-104 Lockheed	248	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
299	189P-104 Lockheed	249	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-
300	189P-104 Lockheed	250	189P-104 Lockheed	37	-

WATER

552-	577- Arleigh	271	+ 3	5.9	32.4
273	281 East Starvo	203		5.2	18.6
741	741	114		6.2	7.8
140	101-101 Can Rd	114		8.9	
640	521-101 Can Rd	521		6.7	11.7
926	583	583	+ 2	5.5	8.8
255	593 South State	3162		3.5	14.4
819-	596- South West	596	+ 3	6.3	10.7
555	597- Thomsen	597	+ 6	5.3	9.5
795-	625- St. Charles	713	- 5	5.5	12.0
100-	743- Weaver	495	- 3	4.6	8.4

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

127	84° Abasco Recruit	129		1.6
215	710 Cole Junior V	130		1.9 15.0
262	180- Deane Hodge	182		3.1 68.6
317	334 Fremont	334		
88	72 McLaughlin	72		0.3 34.4
65	22 Money Cup	1	1	
67	280 Peon	1	5	
203	420-2000 Peon	215		
263	618-2000 Peon	728		0.3
264	618-2000 Peon	74	3	0.3
265	618-2000 Peon	74	3	0.3 15.5
266	618-2000 Peon	22		

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PRINTING & PAPER							
142	70	80	Holdings	20	10	2.4	17.9
143	70	80	Holdings	20	10	2.4	17.9
144	70	80	Holdings	20	10	2.4	17.9
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150	70	80	Holdings	20	10	2.4	17.9
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170	70	80	Holdings	20	10	2.4	17.9
171	70	80	Holdings	20	10	2.4	17.9
172	70	80	Holdings	20	10	2.4	17.9
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140	Payne	34	12	12	12
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51	Albion	35	41	29.8
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Back to basics

AS ROYAL galas go, this was both an unusual and a welcome event. A work portraying the struggles between a tsar and his people seemed a slightly ironic gala choice on the 80th anniversary of the Russian Revolution, but there were strong musical reasons for this visit by the Kirov Opera: no opera as important as *Boris Godunov* had been absent from London for as long as Mussorgsky's masterpiece, and Valery Gergiev had not conducted the work here before.

It was given in the original seven-act version that was rejected by the Maryinsky Theatre in St Petersburg when the composer submitted it in 1869. Now that the present Maryinsky Theatre regime, under Gergiev, has made amends by reviving it, something also done by Opera North eight years ago, we can expect to hear much more of it.

Given as here without an interval, in just two hours and 15 minutes, it packs a dramatic punch, focusing all the action on the tsar who is left alone to confront his adversaries. The score retains its raw power, and Gergiev's pacing was faultless. There was little he could do about the on-stage positioning of his magnificent orchestra and chorus, the latter squeezed into the back

OPERA
Boris Godunov
Theatre Royal
Drury Lane

left-hand corner and thus not sounding immediate enough. The Russian people had to be represented by just a few members of the cast, but their effective costumes and Alexander Adabashian's simple direction clarified the action.

Best of all was the chance to hear an all-Russian cast, a vivid ensemble from top to bottom. Nikolay Putilin may lack the resonant bass notes of an ideal Boris, but he created a figure who held the stage as the character should. Mikhail Kit sang Pimen with special presence. Konstantin Pluzhnikov made a particularly unsavoury Shuisky, and Viktor Lutsuk disclosed an authentic-sounding, tenor as Gregory. And with the spirited Hostess of Lyubov Sokolova, lively Varlaam of Fyodor Kuznetsov and plaintive Simpton of Yevgeny Akimov, this is a company worth every penny raised by the Friends of the Kirov Opera through this event.

JOHN ALLISON

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

HANDEL'S DRAMATIC ORATORIOS
reviewed by Jonathan Keates

Not so long ago the words "Handel oratorio" conjured up visions of overstated amateur choirs, melodramatic contraltos and wobbly string players in the village hall. The wholesale revolution in our attitude to Handel has entailed a thrilling rediscovery of many works lost to audiences since the composer's death in 1759. That means not just the operas but the great dramatic oratorios that represent his most original contribution to 18th-century music.

With more than 60 CD versions available the range of choice is bewildering. I have singled out performances which present the works uncut (including middle sections and repeats in the arias), using an early-instrument sound and respecting Handel's assignment of a particular voice to an individual role (no tenors or basses singing parts originally written for soprano or alto).

Christopher Hogwood's *Athalie* (L'Oiseau Lyre 417 126-2) respects all these criteria in honour of a neglected masterpiece, with Dame Joan



Sutherland striking sparks in the title role. Tugged back from even deeper obscurity is *Theodora*. Handel's own favourite among his oratorios, Lorraine Hunt leads the cast as Theodora in Nicholas McGegan's thoughtful account (HMU 90706/62).

Handel enthusiasts will have been delighted by the ongoing complete oratorio series from Hyperion, with all-star casts including that greatest of modern Handel stylists, James Bowman. Their *Joshua* (66461/2) shows us exactly why Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven placed Handel next to God. So too do Trevor Pinnock's *Archibald Belshazzar* (431 793-2) and John Eliot Gardiner's *Saul on Philips* (426 265-2, £44.99), consistently imaginative and colourful readings which respect the music's theatricality.

● To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SC0681, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk
● Next Saturday on Radio 3: Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov*



Great from any angle, Danilo Perez is in London from tonight. "When people talk about Latin music, they mean Cuba," he says. "I want to expose them to other parts of South America."

Who said Latin is dead?

The pianist Danilo Perez has brought Panamanian sunshine into the often grey world of contemporary jazz. Clive Davis reports

Jelly Roll Morton, the old rascal from New Orleans who claimed to have been the "inventor" of jazz, had no doubt about the importance of Latin syncopation in the music he bequeathed to America. All players, the great man declared with characteristic forthrightness, needed a hint of "Spanish rhythms. If you can't put traces of Spanish in your tunes, you will never be able to get the right seasoning, as I call it, for jazz."

Just as Morton draped many of his tunes in the sensual pulse of the *habanera*, so Danilo Perez, the effervescent, Panamanian-born pianist, has injected fresh Latin colour into the often worryingly monochrome realm of contemporary jazz. His five-night stint in Soho at the Pizza Express Jazz Club — his first London residency — brings a touch of youthful star quality to this year's Oris London Jazz Festival.

His most recent album, a collection of Thelonious Monk tunes titled *Panamunk*, undoubtedly ranked among the best albums of 1996. It goes without saying, of course, that tributes to Monk — one of the fathers of postwar jazz piano, who died in 1982 — have hardly been in short supply over the past decade or so. Some of us, to be honest, would be more than happy never to hear another neo-bop treatment of his angular themes until well into the next millennium.

But Perez's bold approach to the internal rhythms casts the music in a radical new light. *Four in One* and *Reflections* emerge thoroughly reinvigorated, without any keyboard grandstanding or dilution of their

uniquely astringent, Monk-ish voicings. For Perez, the record expressed his vision of jazz as music underpinned by swing and rhythm — a lesson that he makes a point of passing on in the improvisation classes that he teaches at the New England Conservatory. "One thing I'm trying to make, my students aware of is that jazz needs to keep an element of dance," he says. "If you lose that, you lose people. I even teach them dance steps. The point I want to make is that you've got to play with your body."

It seems only appropriate that, early on, he should have found a niche in the big band of Dizzy Gillespie, whose early experiments in Afro-Cuban jazz (which he expressed

in compositions such as *Manteca*) tend to be overshadowed by his role as a bebop pioneer. Perez went on the road with the trumpeter's United Nation Orchestra after working with the Cuban virtuoso Paquito D'Rivera. He later played a part in Wynton Marsalis's band — it was an excellent opportunity, he recalls, to immerse himself in the traditions of New Orleans-style syncopation. He made two albums under his own name before signing to the Impulse label and recording *Panamunk*. The second of those discs, *The Journey*, took the form of a suite exploring the cultural and social intricacies of the Afro-Latin melting pot. If Perez's ambition sometimes

exceeded his reach on that occasion, it was still a highly promising session from the young man. And a subject, too, that he hopes to revisit in the future. Although he now spends little of his time in Panama, one of his principal ambitions is to make an album drawing on the mixed Catholic-African religious heritage of his native land. "I find it a little frustrating sometimes," he says, "that when people talk about Latin music, they really always have Cuba in mind. Much as I like it, that's only one dimension. I really want to expose them to all the other forms that come from other parts of South America." Mister Jelly Roll would surely have approved of his ambitions. ● Danilo Perez is at the Pizza Express Jazz Club, Dean St, London W1 (0171-439 8722) from today to Sat. The Oris London Jazz Festival continues until Sat. Programme details: 0171-405 5994

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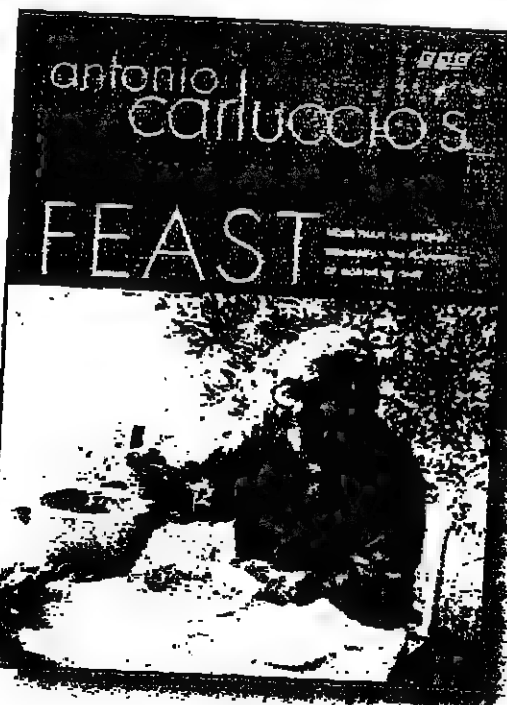
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CHANGING TIMES

CONCERTS: Underpar performance from a tardy diva; two great choirs sublime in tandem

Badly served, those who sit and wait

A top price of, say, £150 for three hours of opera at Covent Garden is commonly denounced as elitist. It represents better value, however, than a top price of £55 for no more than 50 minutes of music in a celebrity concert in the Bridgewater Hall.

Jessye Norman and Mark Markham's recital of songs by Brahms, Schubert and Strauss actually lasted a full two hours, but that included not only the legitimate delays and pauses but also the 15 minutes the two performers kept the audience waiting at the beginning and the ten minutes similarly deployed after the interval.

These were dangerous tactics. If, after making her long-awaited regal entry, the soprano had sung like an angel, even for half a concert, she would have been readily forgiven. But she did not. The great voice is evidently wearing thin in places and has lost more than a little of its splendour.

The result of a natural process to which all singers are vulnerable, that would have been understandable and acceptable enough if the artistry were consistently still there. It is beyond understanding, however, that a musician of her experience and intelligence should consider it desirable in so many cases to distort and discolour the vocal line by a grotesque over-application of expressive emphasis.

It is true that an ordinary singer might have problems in defining detail in a large hall. But Jessye Norman is not one of those. Her interpretation of Schubert's *Der Tod und das Mädchen* was lack-



Brahms's *Zigeunerlieder*, but not without moulting the first syllable of *Brauner Bursche* like a bite too big to chew, and stamping her feet in time to the rhythm we might otherwise have missed.

There were enough indica-

tions in the recital, particularly in the Richard Strauss songs — not least the mercifully unpressurised *Allerseelen* and the apparently spontaneous *Zueignung* encore — to prove that a sensitively shaped line and a poetic piano accompaniment are all that is needed even in a space as large as this. The imposition of vocal and facial gestures that would have seemed exag-

gerated in the amphitheatre at Verona was, on the other hand, alienating. And how strange it is that a singer who holds the audience in such thrall could not, until near the end, discourage the song-by-song applause which — it was quite clear from her freeze-frame poses — she did not want to receive.

GERALD LARNER

Degrees of perfection



In the event it was sublime. With more than 30 boys, and almost as many men, this was the cathedral choir of one's dreams: perfectly tuned; beautifully blended; the treble line never strained, and soft-grained rather than throaty, yet with the strength to ride the far-from-delicate orchestral textures of Schubert's great Mass in E flat. There were glimpses of the choir's power in the Kyrie and in the protracted fugue conclusions to Gloria and Credo. But it was in those startling, heaven-storming harmonies at the open-

ing of the Sanctus that these singers left the restrained world of Choral Evensong far behind.

Two other factors contributed to this sense of drama. The first was the pungent playing of the Brandenburg Orchestra, which accentuated the colour and contrast of this score. The other was the conducting of the King's College director of music, Stephen Cleobury. In the past he has sometimes seemed too prim and proper for big romantic scores, but here he found fervour aplenty.

Of course, King's chapel, for all its nice roofwork, is something of a glorified bathroom in acoustic terms. The Mass, and a lively account of the Magnificat, D486, did not suffer too much; their effects are broad. But elsewhere in this all-Schubert concert (sponsored by the Cromwell Clinic), the artistry of the soprano Lynda Russell in *Salve Regina*, and of the violinist Elizabeth Wallfisch in the Rondo in A, was all but lost in the echoes.

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Matters of life and death arise from two new shows, one rich in gore, the other rich in meaning. Richard Cork reports

Visions that go more than skin deep

Since so many young artists are obsessed with mortality, a new national touring exhibition called *The Quick and the Dead* could hardly be better timed. Probing, macabre and sometimes downright grotesque, this is not a show for the squeamish. But the 172 images selected by Deanna Petherbridge, Professor of Drawing at the Royal College of Art, are still compelling. They prove that the human body has been sliced open and explored for centuries by an astonishing array of fearless artists.

Their incisive findings fill the walls of the Royal College with revelations, and include some of the finest drawings in Western art. Leonardo, an inveterate observer of dissected corpses, turned his ink and chalk studies into sublime meditations on corporeal existence. One sheet contains two drawings of skulls, both seen in profile. Leonardo's exquisite penmanship enables him to investigate every crevice, and his subtle study of the lower skull shows how delicately it rests on the slender, intricate column of the neck. Although Leonardo was only too aware that dissection could be nauseating, disgust was in his case overcome by a sense of wonder. Even when he delves into the organic complexities of the female reproductive system, his drawing ends up seeing these globular forms in awesome terms.

Isolated on the page, these consummate studies give no hint of the circumstances governing their execution. The truth is, though, that the bodies scrutinised by Renaissance artists often belonged to hanged prisoners or anonymous victims of poverty. Andreas Vesalius, in a gruesome engraving of 1543, shows the skinned and disembowelled victim of a public execution still strung up by the rope that strangled him. But when artists take us inside

'The bodies often belonged to hanged prisoners'

the studious calm of the Anatomy Theatre, we are still likely to recoil. In Jacques de Geyn II's print, made around 1615, Doctor Pieter Pausur is conducting a lesson with the male cadaver. While his hand rummages around the intestines, onlookers peer, frown and gesticulate. In order to underline the finality of the corpse's condition, three skulls sit at the base of the dissecting table. And bad-tempered dogs squat in the foreground, waiting for human morsels. Plenty of artists alleviate this grimness with mordant humour. Pietro da Cortona shows a comely nude woman smiling as she pulls open her sliced belly to disclose the plumbing within. She seems as blithely unaffected by pain as the man who, in John Browne's lacerating print, performs a clasp step while he tears skin and muscle from his shoulder. We are a long way, here, from any straightforward desire to learn about anatomical reality. Surrealism is prophesied in Crisostomo Martinez's fantastical engraving of 1685, where skeletons sit, discuss, meditate and pose on plinths like noble classical statues. The monumental dignity of their surroundings culminates, below them, in a bare stone slab where an assortment of discarded bones is propped up for inspection. However fanciful they become, though, most of these images remain almost pedantic in their fidelity to the facts of the body. Rigorously delineated details of sinews, arteries and organs abound wherever you look. Alessandro Allori delights in the deftness with which he shows, on a single sheet, three stages in the progressive amputation of a man's left leg. Having started with all its robust muscle and flesh proudly intact, the hapless limb is then methodically stripped of everything except a thin, vulnerable cluster of bones. Increased anatomical knowledge en-



Dissection scene commemorating lectures by John Banister (1581), attributed to Nicholas Hilliard: the Royal College of Art's latest exhibition is not for the squeamish

abled Giulio Samuto to depict Apollo's faying of Maryas with horrific realism in 1662. Some artists cheekily use dissection as a disguise for erotic images. One well-built male nude on a bed was included in a publication sternly entitled *Graphical Description of all the Muscles in the Human Body*. But the man reclines on the pillow with a languorous, inviting air, and his genitals are provocatively exposed. When artists make three-dimensional models, however, seductiveness is hard to sustain. At the end of the 18th century, André-Pierre Pinson tries to make his seated woman alluring, as she raises one arm in a balletic gesture to balance the other arm's downward thrust. But this graceful, enticing display is undermined by her cut-away torso, where the internal organs are revealed in all their glistening, undulating rawness. Pinson's skill at manipulating coloured wax makes his dissected section difficult to scrutinise without flinching. All the same, there are images of extraordinary, paradoxical beauty in this survey. Outstanding among them is the series of black and red chalk drawings made by Jan van Riemsdyck for William Hunter's seminal 1774 textbook *Anatomy of the Human Gravid Uterus*. When Petherbridge first came across them in Glasgow University Library, they sparked the idea for this exhibition. Van Riemsdyck, who deserves to be better-known, is especially mesmerising in his study called *Front View of the Womb*. Although an opened, upright book has been placed in front of the dead woman's genitals, her body is otherwise depicted with uncompromising directness. So are the folds of skin parted to expose the womb,

which swells outwards and upwards like a burgeoning, over-ripe fruit. The whole picture could easily have been repulsive, but van Riemsdyck treats his subject with enormous respect and tenderness. More remarkable still is his study of a *Fetus in Profile*, made in 1754 for William Smellie's *A Set of Anatomical Tables, with Explanations*. The drawing must have been made from a dead child, who looks fully formed and ready for birth. But there is nothing unduly distressing about this serene image. Lying upside-down and hunched inside the womb's serpentine contours, the cramped foetus nevertheless looks at peace. Van Riemsdyck's virtuosic ability to simulate the textures of skin, bone and flesh is astounding, and yet always rigorously deployed. The opposite of flashy, it honours the origins of human life with an

appropriate feeling of tenderness. The most moving and impressive works on view all arise from a similar motive. George Stubbs' justly renowned drawings for the *Anatomy of the Horse* are precise, meditative and gravely admiring of the animal he scrutinises with such care. A passion for anatomy runs through everything produced by Stubbs, who carried out his first dissection when he was only eight years old. Impervious to the stench of the carcass cut up for his later horse studies, he pursued an admirably perceptive investigation. But the knowledge Stubbs gained never prevented him from appreciating the animal's essential qualities. Freighted with dense information, the pencil drawings still convey his ardent response to the tensile strength of the horse's legs, arrested in graceful movement. That is why the exhibition as a

totality is far from depressing. Although anatomical images can be gruelling and reek of extinction, they are at their best unexpectedly life-affirming. Marc Quinn, one of the contemporary artists who highlight the show's pertinence today, displays a flayed figure streaming with black rubber. He might be disintegrating; but he could equally well be struggling towards a state of regeneration. In this respect, Quinn shares the preoccupations explored in the 16th century by Giorgio Ghisi, whose *Visions of Ezekiel* shows skeletons rising from their tombs and regaining their earlier form. Ecstatic winged cherubs soar above the graveyard, reveling in the realisation that brittle bones can undergo a miraculous rebirth. ● *The Quick and the Dead*, organised by the Hayward Gallery, is at the RCA (0171-590 4444) until Nov 24

Envoys face up to mortality

Nobody could appear more poised than the two figures who preside over the National Gallery's new exhibition. They occupy their space in Holbein's magisterial painting with the authority of young and successful Renaissance men. Jean de Dinteville, French Ambassador to England in 1533, is by far the more lavishly attired of the pair. But neither he nor his friend Georges de Selve, Bishop of Lavaur, could be accused of shyness. They are on public display, life-size and full face, in an elaborate picture stacked with evidence of their intellectual accomplishments.

No wonder *The Ambassadors* has now been made the centrepiece of a special show. Its richness of meaning matches the splendour of the textures Holbein simulates with such beguiling skill. Ranged on the furniture between them is a complex still life, testifying to the encyclopaedic breadth of their interests. Musical instruments lie beside astronomical devices and treatises on mathematics. The arts and sciences cohabit here with an ease almost unimaginable today. So do sacred and secular concerns. On the lower shelf, an open book clearly exposes a hymn by Martin Luther. But a nearby globe symbolises the Renaissance appetite for exploration of Earth rather than Heaven. And Jean de Dinteville ensured that his worldly assets are proclaimed on the globe's surface, where the Frenchman's ample estate, Polisy in Champagne, is identified with lordly prominence.



Hans Holbein's *The Ambassadors*, now the focus of a National Gallery exhibition

of this chilling intrusion. Omnisciently suspended in space, the memento mori mocks the ambassadors' grandeur, and reminds them that the grave is, finally, inescapable. Since Georges de Selve was a man of the Church, he may have encouraged his friend to include the skull. After all, a silver crucifix can also be detected, half-concealed by a lustrous green curtain. The suffering body cringes with the mood of the death's head and promises redemption as well, suggesting that the Bishop should not tempt anyone to underestimate the significance

AROUND THE GALLERIES

□ SINCE Charles Barlett is just coming up to 75, it is obviously high time for a retrospective, and what more appropriate place for it than the Bankside Gallery, home of the Royal Watercolour Society. Barlett is, after all, known primarily as a watercolourist, and has done his five-year stint as president of the RWS. However, Barlett is no dyed-in-the-wool traditionalist, but very clearly a modern artist who just happens to work in a medium which has a long, strong tradition behind it. Most of his watercolours, like his oils and his prints, are landscape-based. But when he finally arrived at the Royal College of Art after his war service he found himself a contemporary of Alan Reynolds and Edward Middleditch, and one can see clear parallels in his work with their ways of formalising and then virtually abstracting the scene before them. Some of Barlett's etchings are almost completely abstract, though the link with representation is never completely broken. The watercolours seldom go that far, but their landscape is regularly deconstructed and put together again in a pattern which owes more to the artist's emotions and his constructive instinct than to the facts. The spirit of the place is unmistakably there, but conveyed with the poet's rather than the topographer's insight. Bankside Gallery, 45 Hopton Street, SE1 (0171-928 7521). Tues-Fri 10am-5pm (Tues to 8pm), Sat-Sun 1-5pm, tomorrow until Nov 30. Admission £3.50, concs £2

watercolours and drawings. Even odder, the first thought that strikes you is not Nineties New York but Twenties Berlin. Almost all the pictures are of couples or individuals dancing in what one presumes to be dancehalls — the figures are presented almost without background. Partly because of a coincidence in the dress modes, partly because of a similar taste for picturesque lowlife, the watercolours of Georg Grosz come irresistibly to mind. But Remfry lacks altogether Grosz's mordant distaste: he loves what he is depicting, and draws and paints it with exuberance. Mercury Gallery, 26 Cork Street, W1 (0171-287 9809). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm, until Nov 22

choice show of whose works on paper is at Wolsley Fine Arts from tomorrow. Both in his writing and in his visual art Jones tended to act as though he were totally unaware of anyone else working in the same forms, so that one constantly has the impression that everything in his art is invented *ab initio*. His watercolours are really lightly tinted drawings, eschewing washes almost completely. The First World War drawings, mostly done much later as illustrations for his prose-poem *In Parenthesis*, are quite straightforward, but the Arthurian drawings are as intricate and overlaid as his later writings. Jones is either a great genius or a fascinating oddity; each spectator will have to decide which. Wolsley Fine Arts, 12 Needham Road, W11 (0171-702 2788). Tues-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 11am-5pm, until Dec 13

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LAW

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Victoria McKee argues that the Woodward trial was also a battle of cultures



The home-grown prosecution team, which included the straight-talking Assistant District Attorney Gerard Leone, proved culturally crucial

Guilty of being British?

Judge Miller Zobel might not have needed to play Solomon had Louise Woodward broken down in tears on the witness stand over Matthew Eappen's death. Unfortunately for her, the only time she showed raw emotion was when she collapsed as the guilty verdict came in. If she had shown half the hysteria of some of her supporters, perhaps the verdict would have been different.

The cultural clashes in the case have been fascinating as the legal one. The defendant was English in the Massachusetts county of Middlesex, where the first shot was fired in the American Revolution. She had entrusted much of her defence to a "white-kid" New York lawyer with a reputation for wizardry on scientific evidence, and for having helped O.J. Simpson to "walk". "People were saying, 'She must be guilty because she hired Scheck'," said Julie Campbell, head of a legal consultancy in Boston.

That Barry Scheck was telegraphic carried no weight with a Massachusetts jury who preferred the straight-talking Assistant District Attorney Gerard Leone, whose annual salary would scarcely keep Mr Scheck in suits for a year.

Mary Spillane, educated at Harvard Business School and head of CMB Image Consultants, has coached witnesses for trials. She said: "Woodward's cool, controlled testimony in the witness box — which British juries might have admired — would have been seen as cold, calculating and emotionless. Americans would have responded better to a teary teenager. The fact that Louise looked bland and dumpy and sad should have

helped: it was the cold body language and smiles and laughter at the wrong points that were bad."

Charles Maclean, a Massachusetts lawyer, said: "I thought for a 19-year-old girl she was perhaps too composed. You have to convey the sadness of the death. But you can't coach someone to be emotional."

Ms Spillane also cited the popular Boston Irish District Attorney, Tom Reilly, and his

home-grown prosecution team of Martha Cookley and Leone, as culturally crucial. "There was the undercurrent Boston Irish prejudice against the Brits and Massachusetts against New York."

Mr Maclean, a former policeman, said: "The Boston Irish versus English undercurrent is probably more definable, although there's always been a rivalry between Boston and New York." He pointed out, however, that

Wales, counsel on the other side said to the Welsh judge "I appear for the injured Welsh workman and my friend Mr Carman, who comes from Manchester, appears for the English insurance company". I've never forgotten that.

The local attorneys prosecuting appealed more to the emotions of this jury than the English girl defendant, whose vocabulary and idiomatic language may not have gone down well in Boston. Maybe they expected more of her in terms of tears or remorse, whereas the English ethos is to be more controlled. There was quite a clash between the mother (Deborah Eappen) and the girl in style of presentation to the jury.

"There was also a cultural clash in expectation of support. Considered casual home help in Britain, in America, as one Massachusetts mother told me: "We expect them to provide fulltime, cheap care for our children and our houses. Sometimes we even call them nannies."

Jonathan Caplan, QC, said: "Whether any British juries have been prejudiced by the attitude or representation of a barrister is something we don't usually find out here. Televising this trial has

proved extremely fortunate for Louise." Mr Caplan, chairman of the Bar Council report on televising the courts (1989), said: "It mobilised public opinion. It is difficult to say whether things would have been conducted differently without the camera there."

But Phil Benjamin, a former Assistant District Attorney in Massachusetts, thinks justice was done and seen to be done. "I thought the case was very well tried, with both sides well prepared. The sense I got was that the jury just didn't believe Louise. In the end that's what counted against her."

appoint magistrates, are seeking suitable blind candidates for appointments to the bench. The move has been welcomed by the Royal National Institute for the Blind and the Lord Chancellor, who announced in July that he wanted to appoint blind people as JPs. Those appointed will be part of a pilot project over the next six months.

Over to Straw
WHO SAID Jack Straw and Lord Irvine of Lairg were not on friendly terms? The Lord Chancellor said last week that he got on with the Home Secretary "well and proper" and that they regularly lunched "without officials". It was, he added, Straw's turn to buy lunch.

● Details of The Times Law Awards 1997, with One Essex Court, on Privacy and the Press: is law the answer? will be published again next week. They are also available via 0171-583 2000 or The Times Website at: <http://www.the-times.co.uk>

SCRIVENOR

link between the chambers, which was holding a reception, and Sir Frederick Lawton, a retired Court of Appeal judge and one of the set's founders, who now lives in Yorkshire and could not make the journey to be there.

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American way to win injury claims

The American personal injury claim system is often derided in Britain. But are we right to sneer? I suggest that it is time for us to stop looking down our noses and to start adopting some features of the American system, such as jury trials and punitive damages.

There is strong evidence that corporate Britain is likely to be injuring and killing — through environmental pollution and through its products — many people, but there will always be weaknesses in the ability of the regulators to control this. For example, when my firm was pursuing the Sellafield childhood leukaemia claims I was surprised to find that we were the only outside body to have gone through Internal British Nuclear Fuels documents relating to the radioactive discharges from the plant. The Nuclear Inspectorate and National Radiological Protection Board never saw this as their job.

The problem for injury lawyers, such as myself, when we take on cases to try to bring these companies to book, is that genetic science is still in its infancy in terms of being able to show that particular substances cause particular illnesses. With the burden being on the plaintiff to prove the case, corporate Britain walks away extremely lightly in court.

If we are to have a system devoted to the protection of individuals, it is vital that it be a dynamic personal injury system that brings the companies causing damage to heel, and puts more cards into the hands of the plaintiff. Having a personal injury system that protects the health of human beings should be seen as a fundamental right, not just a safety net when all else fails.

In the US there has been an explosion of mass tort claims over the past 15 years, with hundreds of thousands of people suing, often successfully, in relation to Agent Orange, Dalkon Shield, Bjork-Shiley heart valves, the drugs DES and Bendectin, asbestos, breast implants and tobacco. Some of these claims have massively hit the American corporate world, sometimes for many millions, even billions, of dollars. Nothing has been seen in the UK that remotely matches the scale and impact of those claims.

In Britain there have been a number of disasters and other group claims, but in no case have the defendants paid out more than a few millions of pounds, a tiny fraction of the US settlements. The personal injury system in the UK is no more than an irritant to British companies in the US. It can bring a company to its knees.

In America it is jurors, rather than the British judge, who determine personal injury claims. There is no question but that the level

of proof, albeit on the same "balance of probabilities" in the two systems, is much lower before a jury than before a judge. It is my view that a judge in the UK, faced with a ground-breaking decision and a reputation to protect, will tend to be more conservative than a jury, which is far more likely to give the plaintiff the benefit of the doubt and will probably be looking for a far lower level of proof.

As well as giving more favourable decisions for the plaintiff and generally awarding more substantial damages than is the case here, these members of the American public are also able to award punitive damages against companies when it is thought that they have acted in a way that demands society's punishment.

The money made by US lawyers is often used as an argument against the American system. Though I am certainly not advocating the extremes of this system, it does have some benefits. UK lawyers, not enjoying anything like the same rewards, are more inclined to take the safe option — not to take risks and not to put the pro bono time into developing new areas of work.

A good example of all this is the tobacco cases. In reading through the papers that have emerged from the industry over the past three years, what is crystal clear is that the greatest fear of the industry was being taken on not by the regulators in the US and UK, but by the US lawyers. The industry was successful in its strategy, defeating 400 individual claims, until it was taken on by the big guns of the plaintiffs' Bar, with all the many hundreds of millions of dollars at their disposal, primarily emanating from their successful asbestos claims. Recognising that its bluff had been called, the industry agreed to pay out \$368 billion, a mind-boggling sum.

I do not want to suggest that nothing is yet happening in Britain, and indeed tobacco is a good instance where we have decided to take the bull by the horns, but most of the claims are one-off actions, which are likely to have little overall impact on the defendant companies.

It is quite clear that the British personal injury system has moved towards the American way, but it still has an enormous distance to travel before our system goes about protecting the rights of the British citizen with the vigour of the Americans. Despite all its faults, the American system has a lot from which we could learn.

● The author, senior partner of Leigh Day & Co, is acting for plaintiffs in the first tobacco-related claims in Britain.



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Safety must always come first

Stephanie Trotter on the drawbacks of a new corporate killing offence

From Aberfan up to the Southall train crash in September, more than 1,000 victims have perished in tragedies for which companies could have been held liable. In addition, the TUC has announced a 20 per cent increase in deaths in the workplace.

Tomorrow the Health and Safety Executive will release its latest figures. Yet the law seems powerless to punish large companies.

The problem with the law of corporate manslaughter is the need to identify the controlling mind. The controlling officer will usually be a director. The only successful prosecution of a corporation for manslaughter by gross negligence was that of OLL Ltd. In that case, four teenagers on an activity holiday drowned while canoeing in Lyme Bay, Dorset.

The company was a one-man band whose "directing mind" was plainly that of its managing director, Peter Kite, who was sentenced to imprisonment. Contrast this with the large company, where the "safety officer" is often too lowly even to raise concerns with the directors.

Under the proposed new offence of corporate manslaughter, company directors would be severely dealt with and, if convicted, fined personally or jailed. There was a consensus that the Law Commission proposals are likely to become law.

The Law Commission was asked to review involuntary manslaughter as a whole. The new proposed offence of corporate killing has the advantage of being easier to prove, as it rests upon a management failure. But it has drawbacks. The punishment is an unlimited fine on the company (paid into government funds and, as a company expense, paid by the shareholders). The court will also have the power to impose a "remedial order".



Rescue services search Lyme Bay for the four teenagers who drowned after their canoes capsized during an activity holiday in Dorset

(restricted to, for example, the machine that caused the death, not a safety audit of the whole system). Unlike corporate manslaughter, corporate killing does not cover deaths abroad (except in restricted circumstances, such as oil platforms in the North Sea).

The new offence of corporate killing will mean that companies may face huge fines and a restricted remedial order can be made. But will this be enough to satisfy public concern? And will the new law encourage improved safety systems?

What is needed is a measure to make those with the day-to-day control more personally responsible and accountable.

Obviously it is the directors who have the real control, but it is their duty to maximise profit for the shareholders. Effective safety systems are expensive and the risk of prosecution may seem worth taking, particularly by less scrupulous companies and directors.

One positive proposal would be to amend company law, making it compulsory for a director to be appointed as "safety director".

There are those who maintain that it would not be possible to find someone willing to be safety director. I disagree, but there should be safeguards. Where other directors unreasonably refuse the safety director's suggestions, it should be possible to prosecute the other directors and the company for manslaughter by gross negligence, not the safety director.

The objection is that there would be an outcry if directors of large companies were sent to prison for the deaths of customers or employees. But nobody objects to directors being sent to prison for financial offences. If company law made directors more personally responsible, so that the controlling mind could be easily identified, would it be so necessary to change the criminal law of corporate manslaughter after all?

It is my belief that we could end up with a situation in which directors of smaller companies will face graver personal punishment than the bosses of big businesses.

But although they will suffer from the imposition of heavy fines and damage to reputation, you cannot put a company in jail and this in turn leads to an imbalance in the application of the law, because it will still remain easier to secure individual convictions against directors of small businesses.

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Small-firm bosses may suffer

THE offence of corporate killing will open the way for prosecutions against large corporations, but once successfully brought against the company, it is unlikely that senior executives will be personally punished.

This is ironic, because attempts to bring convictions for corporate manslaughter have always hinged on the ability of the prosecution to identify that a senior officer of a company — its so-called "directing mind" — had acted with gross negligence. With the need to

establish individual liability removed and the likelihood of successful convictions against big businesses increased, companies face the stigma of being branded corporate killers if acts of negligence for which they are held collectively responsible lead to the deaths of employees, customers, contractors or members of the public.

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GARETH WATKINS

The author is a partner with Nabarro Nathanson

Edward Fennell on EMU's effect

Make way for the euro

Are we heading for a millennium melt-down? Some lawyers are fearful that the double whammy of the euro's arrival and computing's year zero will wreck their clients' internal administration. Time is running out for many organisations to put in place the legal agreements necessary to tide them through a turbulent period.

The problem is complacency. Kathryn Shimmmin, a partner with the South Coast firm Blake Lapthorn, admits that there are few inquiries from businesses about preparing for the euro.

"They take the view that because the UK will not be involved in the first wave, they have nothing to worry about," she said.

However, the use of the euro among the UK's trading partners means that businesses will be affected. Even in the high street, Ms Shimmmin expects to see changes.

"People arriving at Southampton and Portsmouth with euros will expect to be able to use them," she said. "Marks & Spencer is introducing tills to deal with the euro and other retailers will be under pressure to do the same."

Meanwhile, David Halliday of Eversheds is beginning to see curiosity stirring among his clients. As a banking partner based in London, he is fully involved in the development of the euro and thinks that the CBI is doing a good job in briefing business.

"A number of our clients have attended Confederation of British Industry events and are now coming to see us to discuss the legal technicalities. Business will

find itself carried along by commercial pressures and start doing business in euros," he said.

Mr Halliday, pointing to his own firm, admits that like most British industry with overseas clients, it has been hit by the strength of the pound. "I can see myself dealing in euros rather than sterling once the single currency has arrived. I also envisage that customers from the Continent will want to pay in euros when offered a choice of currency."

Lawyers are preparing standard clauses to be inserted into contracts to take account of the euro.

Richard Thomas, a senior consultant with Pinsent Curtis, is helping the firm's American clients to get to grips with what economic and monetary union means for their investments in Western Europe.

"Although there is no indication of a shift in investments out of the UK, if we are not in the first wave, there is no question that American business is starting to take an intense commercial interest in what the developments are likely to entail."

Steven Philippsohn, a specialist in Ford at the niche firm Philippsohn Crawford Berwald, predicts that the transition period will give criminals a field day.

"Unless proper safeguards are put in place, a fraudster could seek to benefit by exploiting the inevitable teething problems that will be experienced by the introduction and unfamiliarity of the new currency, and by expediting cross-border payments at an earlier opportunity."

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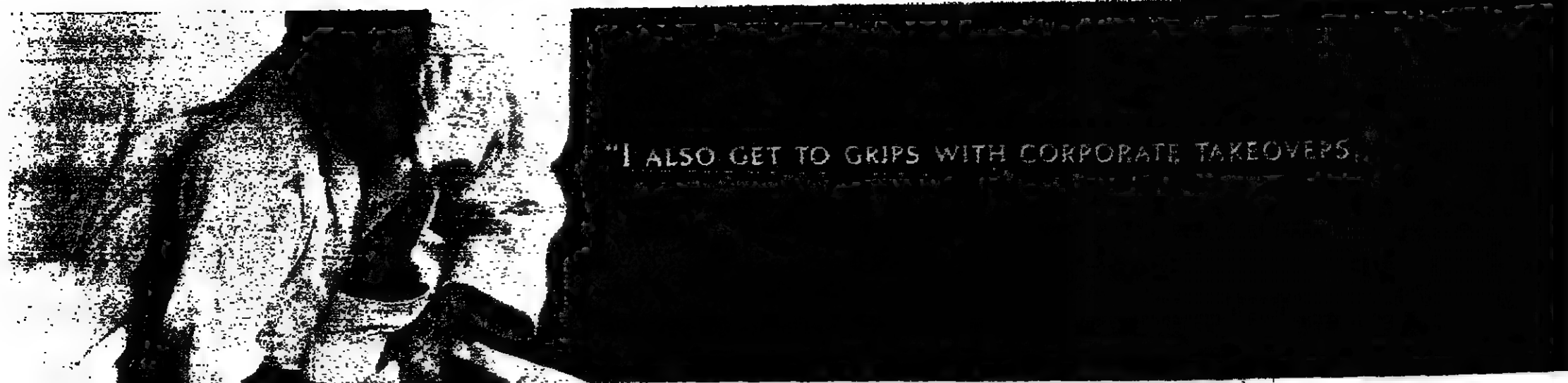
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competence. Successful applicants will have practiced with a premier U.S. law firm, with 2-4 years transactional or securities experience.

As well as top compensation, Kirkland & Ellis offers its lawyers immediate deal responsibility for challenging transactions in a "work hard, play harder", team-spirited, professional environment.

* The American Lawyer (Mid-level Associates Survey - Oct. 1996)

For further information, please contact our advising consultant Keshi Akalawu on 0171 404 4646 (0956 162 977 during evenings or weekends), or alternatively write to her at Daniels Bates Legal, 17 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QH. Fax 0171 831 7969. E-mail: hmggroup@hmggroup.co.uk

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The Company

A leading Jersey commercial law firm and one of the oldest established legal practices. A high proportion of the firm's senior lawyers are recognised leaders in their fields of experience and have particular expertise in company and commercial, trusts, banking and financial services work.

The Location

Jersey is the largest and most southerly of the British Channel Islands. It is a low tax independent jurisdiction with one of the highest standards of living in the western world.

The Role

This is an exciting opportunity for a city practitioner to join a dynamic team in an expanding, progressive department with a strong international corporate and private client base. Reporting to a senior partner, the successful candidate will work within a small team to assist in a wide range of commercial transactions.

The Requirements

- 3-5 years post qualification experience
- Good all-round corporate / commercial law experience, preferably gained in a large city law firm
- Able to demonstrate a high level of expertise in securitisation, debt issues and a knowledge of investment, banking and trust work
- Leadership and entrepreneurial qualities
- Strong interpersonal skills, with a natural ability to build and maintain client relationships
- A willingness to qualify as a Jersey Advocate / Solicitor

A highly competitive remuneration package, and prospects for career progression and partnership are excellent. The successful candidate will qualify as an essential employee for Jersey Housing purposes.

Please reply with full details to Rosy Dessain or Ian Thomas, quoting reference MV/181/134. Closing date for applications Monday 24 November

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If you're between 6 months and 2 years qualified, specialising in company commercial law with a leading City or regional commercial firm, have enthusiasm, the confidence to make decisions and the personality to work one-to-one with senior management, the case has just been made for you.

Help us to bring our business objectives within reach and you can expect a competitive salary and benefits package including performance related bonus, share options, company car and other benefits.

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If international project work is your forte, then you will make your name at this leading City practice. You are guaranteed a very broad spread of work as well as full support and career development. A superb first (and maybe last) move for a 2-5 years qualified project/transaction lawyer. Ref: T22325

CORPORATE INSURANCE

To £70,000
Join at the start of something big. This highly regarded City firm has a small yet rapidly developing insurance practice, adding for some very substantial insurance clients. The firm is now seeking to recruit a solicitor with 3-6 years' exp to work as number 2. Your background may be in company/commercial, insurance or regulatory. Ref: T41389

TAX

To £70,000
2-5 years qualified corporate tax lawyer sought to join the team of highly regarded medium-sized City firm. Very broad range of corporate tax work to include corporate support. Plenty of opportunity to specialise if desired. Ref: T44730

PROPERTY

To £70,000
This firm has one of the largest property practices in the City. This means quality work, but without compromising on client contact. A solicitor with 1-5 years' exp is sought for full range of commercial property work including development, institutional and finance. Ref: T38793

MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS

To £75,000
Progressive and entrepreneurial commercial firm with established City team seeks solicitor with 4-7 years' exp. The practice is dealing with some of the most exciting work in this sector including telecoms, multimedia and broadcasting. Outstanding opportunity to represent clients at the cutting edge of this field. Ref: T27468

PENSIONS

To £80,000
Secure your long-term future by joining this top 20 City firm's experienced and crucial pensions department. You will play a key role across the firm's work and will be richly rewarded for it if you can show 1-2 years' exp and solid pensions experience. There are real career opportunities here. Ref: T38175

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To £80,000
You could outpace your career into a new league if you head out to the City where all the truly sexy emerging markets work is. Now better to join than this truly global law firm with a well-established presence in Moscow. The cutting edge quality of the work will launch your career far quicker than staying in London if you are a corporate/capital markets lawyer. Ref: T18385

CORPORATE

To £55,000
If you are looking for a firm which is interesting and dynamic and wants its corporate lawyers to enjoy their work then look no further than this medium sized City practice if you have 0-5 years' exp. They are constantly being joined by talented lawyers. Ref: T28999

PROPERTY - FOR FINANCE

To £45,000
You are an 18 month to 3 1/2 year qualified property lawyer and you don't necessarily have any finance experience but you are very keen to move your career in this direction and to a firm which will train you and which inspires its young lawyers to succeed. You are an excellent negotiator and are open to work - there are few options like this around. Ref: T44618

SHIPPING

To £52,000
A shipping firm with a recognised brand name in the market is seeking a solicitor at 1-4 years' exp with specialising experience to undertake burgeoning City work. With a strong academic background and robust personality this is an opportunity to kick your career into off with a leading niche firm. Ref: T29193

RE-INSURANCE

To £52,000
Excellent opportunity within this specialist but burgeoning area of law. This is a rare opportunity to join an established and lively team within a small, well respected City firm if you have 1-4 years' exp and relevant experience. Ref: T38389

CONSTRUCTION

To £55,000
You have got 3-5 years' exp in construction (preferably a mix of contentious and non contentious) and you want to join a City firm which is keen to advance in your area. The firm has for a wide range of clients and is looking for a young enthusiastic lawyer to join a team already punching above its weight. Ref: T44281

PLANNING/ENVIRONMENT

To £40,000
Planning for the future? Then look no further than this top 10 City firm, where you are as important as your work. It offers a very strong training and career development programme to a planning/environment lawyer with 0-3 years' exp who has designs on making it all the way to the top. Ref: T44485

EMPLOYMENT

To £47,000
This niche firm is highly ranked for the quality of its employment work. Looking for junior employment lawyers at 0-3 years' exp to join its established team, this should provide an excellent opportunity to position yourself in a firm that regard this area of law as central to the core strategy and where you will be doing more than just corporate support. Ref: T27775



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Kate Sutcliffe, Adrian Fox or Sarah David (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 4462 (0734 569203 or 0171-286 3079 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougal Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

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LONDON

1-4 Years' Pqe

Founded in 1962, Service Corporation International is an American owned service provider with a global presence focusing on North America, Europe and the Pacific Rim. Its annual revenues exceed US\$2.3 billion and it has a worldwide staff of more than 34,000.

The importance of its European presence through its subsidiary Service Corporation International plc cannot be over-emphasised and with an extensive acquisition programme and proven management techniques, SCI intends to extend its strategy of selective domestic and international expansion alongside continued revenue growth.

As part of this continued growth in Europe, the London based Legal Counsel seeks a mainstream company/commercial lawyer from either a private practice or industry background. The work will be broad ranging corporate transactions, focusing on acquisitions but will also include more general commercial work from marketing and employment issues to intellectual property and information technology contracts. In-depth legal knowledge and excellent technical skills are pre-requisite as is a diplomatic but assertive personality, to thrive in a highly commercial but extremely sensitive sector.

This is an exceptional opportunity to join a market leader and play a key role in their ambitious but focused growth plans. On offer is an excellent remuneration package including high base salary, discretionary bonus and additional benefits.



For further information in complete confidence please contact Rebecca Errington (qualified lawyer) on 0171-405 6062 (0181-293 8520 evenings/weekends) or write to her at QD In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EJ. Confidentiality fac 0171-831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by QD In-House Legal - all third party applications will be forwarded to QD for consideration.

Regional Legal Affairs Director

Merck & Co., Inc. Whitehouse Station, NJ, USA, is a global research-driven pharmaceutical company that discovers, develops, manufactures and markets a broad range of human health products.



MSD

BRUSSELS BASED POSITION

Merck & Co., Inc. recognises that the ability to excel depends on the integrity, imagination, knowledge and skill of its employees. It strives to create working environments which foster mutual encouragement and team-work and reward commitment and performance while being responsive to the needs of employees.

A position has now arisen for an attorney fluent in English and preferably at least one other European language to be based in Brussels.

Experience in competition and intellectual property law together with transactional matters (including licensing and distribution agreements) is essential together with an understanding of the workings of the European Commission. In addition, a flexible approach and willingness to handle a variety of commercial affairs will be necessary. This is a senior position, reporting to two regional vice-presidents, and will require the successful candidate to demonstrate strong analytical and communication skills.

Travel within Europe also will be required. The successful candidate can expect a competitive remuneration package.

For further details please contact Aileen Shepherd, Morwenna Lewis or Sonya Rayner or send them a copy of your C.V. Alternatively e-mail: AileenShepherd@chambersrecruitment.co.uk
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That explains why we are looking for someone with 2-5 years' generalist experience gained in a major plc - ideally within the service sector. Proven expertise in

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In return, you can look forward to an excellent salary and major company benefits. However, the biggest attraction of all must be the opportunity to work with a rapidly-expanding, award-winning company. A company with a unique corporate culture and a reputation for actively supporting the professional development of all its employees.

To apply, please send CV and covering letter including current salary to Gill Davis, HR Consultant at the HR Department, PHH Europe plc, PHH Centre, Windmill Hill, Swindon, Wiltshire SN5 6PE. Alternatively, please use our confidential fax 01793 884497.

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As one of the leading City based international law firms, Norton Rose offers a service that is designed to meet the needs of the most demanding clients around the world. Our highly successful Banking Department now needs exceptional lawyers to increase the already considerable resources across a number of key areas:

- Banking
- Structured Finance
- Insolvency
- Acquisition Finance

The Department needs individuals with character and resourcefulness, high achievers who are commercially aware and excited by the prospect of working on major projects in the UK and around the world. Lawyers with up to four years' relevant experience will be considered.

We can offer successful applicants the opportunity to develop their skills across a wide and varied range of challenging and stimulating projects, working in close contact with major international financial and corporate clients in a supportive team environment.

For further information and details of our opportunities for career development, highly competitive salary and benefits package please send your CV to Celia Staples.



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LEGAL ADVISOR Oil & Gas Exploration & Production

Oryx UK Energy Company is a subsidiary of the Dallas based Oryx Energy Company, one of the largest independent oil and gas companies in the world. In the UK, Oryx operates the Ninian, Hutton, Murchison and Lyell fields. Its interests embrace exploration, production, transportation and onshore facilities.

Oryx UK Energy Company is head-quartered in Aberdeen where it now has an excellent opportunity for an oil industry lawyer. Reporting to the Legal Manager, your wide-ranging role will involve you in providing legal expertise on all aspects of the company's business. This will include providing legal expertise in commercial negotiations and advice to senior management.

You must be a solicitor or barrister with 5-7 years post qualification oil industry experience. Your knowledge of the commercial and legal principles applicable to agreements encountered in exploration, appraisal, development and production should be complemented by excellent drafting skills.

A key element for success will be the establishment of effective relationships at senior levels based on respect for the quality of your advice and the perception of you as a facilitator of

business. The compensation package will be tailored to attract the highest calibre applicants.

For a confidential discussion concerning this appointment telephone either David Jones or Barbara Digby on 0118 946 3030.

Alternatively, write to them with career and remuneration details at Digby Jay Jones, Oil & Gas - Search & Selection, The Atrium Court, Apex Plaza, Reading, Berkshire RG1 1AX. Fax: 0118 946 3715.



DeLaRue

Assistant Company Secretary

LONDON WC2

££40,000 + CAR + BENEFITS

Company Profile

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Role

You will be a key member of a small Head Office team, assisting the Company Secretary in providing a comprehensive and proactive support function to the board and to UK and overseas subsidiary companies. This role will encompass all aspects of Stock Exchange and statutory compliance, share scheme administration, Annual Report input, AGM co-ordination and a range of project based responsibilities.

Candidate

You must hold an appropriate professional qualification backed by several years' experience in a sizeable public company with a progressive, IT supported, company secretarial function. Familiarity with the corporate administration requirement of an international group would be helpful. You will need to work effectively under pressure and your career to date should demonstrate your ability to innovate, add value, and to establish effective working relationships. You must be computer literate.

Please write, in confidence, with full career and salary details to Sue Matheson at MSL Search and Selection, 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6JJ. Please quote reference 64680.



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International Investment Management



BERNARD

Chief Legal Officer & Head of Operations

Competitive Package

Fidelity is the world's largest independent investment management organisation, controlling assets in excess of \$600 billion, on behalf of 12 million* customers worldwide. Our international headquarters are based in Bermuda and we are now looking for an individual with the calibre and expertise to take responsibility for all international corporate legal affairs, as well as the management of all operational functions in Bermuda.

Your global influence will extend across corporate borrowing, joint ventures, pricing agreements and strategic alliance agreements, as well as Fidelity trademarks and intellectual property - with additional responsibility for our investment compliance, corporate secretarial and fund treasury operations. Your brief will involve significant contribution at both strategic and day-to-day levels, demanding strong corporate

direction and the ability to manage a diverse team of professionals. At least ten years' post-qualification experience gained at senior level in a major financial centre is essential, together with demonstrable management and leadership skills. Beyond that, a thorough knowledge of offshore mutual funds, US and European compliance and regulatory issues is important, with a strong grasp of intellectual property law and the registration/maintenance of trademarks.

The package offered is highly competitive, though the real reward lies in an outstanding opportunity to influence the phenomenal growth of the world's most innovative investment expertise. If you have the experience and the gravitas for such a role, please contact Katherine Atkinson, Fidelity Investments, Oakhill House, 130 Toulbridge Road, Hildenborough, Kent TN11 9DZ. Fax: 01752 832792.

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* Resources as at 30/9/97 include those of FMR Corp., a US Company and affiliate, listed by Fidelity Investment Management Ltd. 000000.

PRACTICE IN-HOUSE

CONSULTANT - OVERSEAS MARKET

If you are interested in recruitment and are commercial, proactive, ambitious, confident and work equally well independently or as part of a team we would like to hear from you. The rewards can be extremely attractive and are results orientated giving you control of your own earning power. We are currently seeking an additional consultant to deal with the Overseas Private Practice market and for further information contact Laurence Simons personally.

Project Finance

A premier City firm, our client has a requirement for an experienced project finance lawyer. You will ideally have between 2 and 4 years relevant experience but applications will be considered from project lawyers with a strong background at any level. Contact Jane Foster. Ref: 1029

Fund Management/F&A

City Based within the Corporate Department, The Financial Services Group of this well known City practice seeks a lawyer to assist in the provision of specialist legal advice and services in relation to launches, investment funds, unit trusts, LPs and a wide range of financial services products. Contact Jane Foster. Ref: 1471

Company/Commercial

West End This established commercial practice seeks a company/commercial solicitor with up to 3 years experience. A full range of work is offered including public and private corporate law, banking and finance and aircraft acquisitions. This is an exciting opportunity to flourish in a small team. Contact Samantha Knowles. Ref: 1469

Commercial

City Our client specialises in business law both in the domestic and international markets. Due to rapid growth they are looking to appoint solicitors at all levels of post qualification experience in the following non-contentious areas: corporate, finance, intellectual property, telecoms, insurance, commercial property, immigration, employment, banking and anti-trust. Contact Samantha Knowles. Ref: 1594

Employment Law

Leeds The employment law unit of this major practice enjoys a leading reputation in the North East. There are currently vacancies in the team for lawyers 2-3 years qualified who have experience of acting for large commercial clients. Contact Andre Field. Ref: 1574

Commercial Contracts

Birmingham This is a chance for a 3-5 year qualified commercial lawyer to play a prominent role in developing this major international practice's approach to the fields of equipment purchase, trading agreements, equipment leasing and consignment agreements. Contact Andre Field. Ref: 983

US ATTORNEY

If you are US qualified and trained and have around 5 years international or European general commercial experience, then our client which is a leader in the high tech field would like to hear from you. The position is Dublin based and offers excellent prospects for the right candidate. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref: 114

European Lawyers

Europe Wide We currently have instructions throughout Europe for lawyers with between 2 and 6 years company and commercial experience gained from a well known firm or other multinational. In particular, we would like to hear from well qualified Italian, German, French and Belgian lawyers. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref: 3063

INTERNATIONAL ROLES WITH A BLUE-CHIP UK, CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA, MIDDLE EAST, RUSSIA / CIS

Our client is a prestigious household name multinational. As part of a reorganisation of the in-house legal function, applications are invited from lawyers with between 2 and 7 years high quality corporate experience gained from leading law firms. There are several roles on offer and whilst the UK positions do not require languages, fluency in Spanish or Russian is a distinct advantage for the others. Contact Rachael North. Ref: 3068

Banking Litigation/Compliance

3-8 years This is an excellent opportunity to join a major international investment bank. The role is largely autonomous and the successful candidate will be expected to supervise litigation, arbitration and regulatory investigations in several jurisdictions. Contact St. John Whittle. Ref: 3060

Emerging Markets/Derivatives

To £200,000 This leading international inter-dealer brokerage firm specialises in emerging market debt, money market instruments and derivatives, and now requires a 5-8 year qualified lawyer to act as UK general counsel. This is a board level appointment and an exciting opportunity to join this rapidly expanding organisation. Contact St. John Whittle. Ref: 3069

UK Lawyers in the USA

4-7 years ppe US\$145,000 UK derivatives lawyers are sought to join this major international oil and gas corporation in southern USA. This is an excellent opportunity to relocate, enhance your career and improve your quality of life. Contact St. John Whittle. Ref: 3070

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IP LAWYER

2-7 Years' ppe

As a subsidiary of the Cancer Research Campaign, CRC Technology was established to make possible the transfer of promising advances in research to development, and ultimately delivery to the cancer patient. The company now also provides that service to other charities both in the UK and overseas.

As in-house counsel for this London based company, your main responsibility will be drafting and negotiating agreements relating to the development and licensing of promising research findings, primarily alliances between CRC funded research groups and pharmaceutical/bio-tech companies. You will work closely with project managers internally and also be responsible for liaising with the company's external lawyers and the appropriate officers of the CRC.

As an experienced IP lawyer with between 2-7 years' ppe, you will ideally have a scientific background and/or experience in the pharmaceuticals or biotech area. Practical in your approach, you will have the flexibility to fit into this small, close-knit team and with the ability and confidence to act as sole in-house counsel. You can expect excellent and varied work, good remuneration, as well as the knowledge that your day to day work directly assists in the fight against cancer.



For further information in complete confidence please contact Rebecca Errington or Stephen Leary (qualified lawyers) on 0171 405 6862 (0171 537 9375 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4PL. Confidential Fax 0171 831 6394. This engagement is being handled on an exclusive basis and all direct and third party applications will be forwarded to QD for consideration.

PRIVATE PRACTICE & IN-HOUSE

SECURITIES

Top tier firm with an enviable international client base seeks US qualified lawyers with relevant securities experience at all levels. For an ambitious and energetic lawyer the opportunity is an excellent opportunity to help create a "one stop shop" service for the firm's leading corporate and investment banking clients. (Ref 19500)

WALL STREET RATES

Fast growing Singapore office of leading City firm seeks 2-4 year banking lawyer to join close-knit team involved in big ticket work. Some project finance experience would be ideal, but more important is an enthusiastic approach and interest in the region, as travel will be required. Great opportunity to join a market leader. (Ref 20771)

FINANCE - SINGAPORE

Fast growing Singapore office of leading City firm seeks 2-4 year banking lawyer to join close-knit team involved in big ticket work. Some project finance experience would be ideal, but more important is an enthusiastic approach and interest in the region, as travel will be required. Great opportunity to join a market leader. (Ref 20771)

EXCELLENT

PROPERTY FINANCE

Usually for a top tier New York firm, our client has been active in acquiring commercial and non-commercial properties for its London office, and is now looking for assistance in property finance. A number of UK lawyers have already joined the firm, and there is a clear intent to build a genuine, full service multi-national partnership. Exceptional rates of pay. (Ref 20611)

EXCELLENT

Our client, one of the best known global companies, has several new vacancies for lawyers to be based in the UK, Central/South America, Russia and the Middle East. Urgent attention is given to the recruitment of lawyers in the above regions. All these are considered to be a proactive commercial approach and sound company/commercial experience. The range of experience that will be considered varies from newly qualified to senior partner level, depending on position. (Ref 21164)

TELECOMS

Top tier firm with highly regarded UK and international telecoms practice seeks up to 5 year telecoms lawyer who is keen to capitalise on higher telecoms and potential. Flexibility means the group also welcomes technically gifted corporate lawyers looking to specialise in the burgeoning sector. An excellent opportunity to work for one of the leading players. (Ref 21019)

TO £65,000

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International commodities and trading company seeks 3 years' plus commercial lawyer, preferably with some experience of, or interest in, international trade commodities. Will play a commercial role advising senior management on joint ventures, acquisitions and disposals world-wide, particularly focused on emerging markets. Balanced work environment in central London with opportunities to travel and grow the legal function. (Ref 16765)

£50,000-£60,000+BENEFITS

ENERGY

Top tier firm with superb energy team seeks a 1-4 year energy/corporate lawyer for their fast expanding domestic and international practice. A wide ranging caseload, both upstream and downstream, will attract commercially adept lawyers motivated by high quality work who wish to specialise in the developments in the energy sector in this dynamic market. (Ref 20797)

TO £50,000

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Consistent to enjoy a first class reputation in litigation, our client is looking for excellent lawyers, ideally between 3-5 years' qualified, who possess not only the intelligence required to handle demanding work but who can also display commercial acumen and the ability to mix with clients and colleagues alike. Work will include a mix of general commercial litigation and professional negligence. (Ref 18407)

TO £50,000+BENEFITS

IN-HOUSE REG.COM

Fast growing financial services company outside London seeks articulate lawyer with 3-5 years' corporate experience and, ideally, some knowledge of financial services. Wide range of work, with increasing international focus, including M&A, joint ventures, distribution agreements, new products and regulatory issues. Reporting to the Board, this is an exciting opportunity to enjoy high quality work while improving your quality of life. (Ref 20797)

INSOLVENCY

London office of highly successful national firm seeks 2-5 year insolvency lawyers (commercial & non-commercial) to join high profile team with a "can do" approach. If you are flexible and thrive in a busy environment, please apply. Those with banking, finance and recovery experience, willing to focus on corporate recovery, will also be considered. (Ref 17817)

£35-£40,000

For further information on these, and the many other vacancies registered with us, please contact Andy Castledine or Andy Golding (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-523 3838 (01483-828110 evenings/weekends). For in-house vacancies please contact Yasmin Phillips on 0171-523 3832 (0171-376 4968 evenings/weekends) or write to us at ZMB, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential Fax 0171-523 3839. E-mail andy@zmb.co.uk

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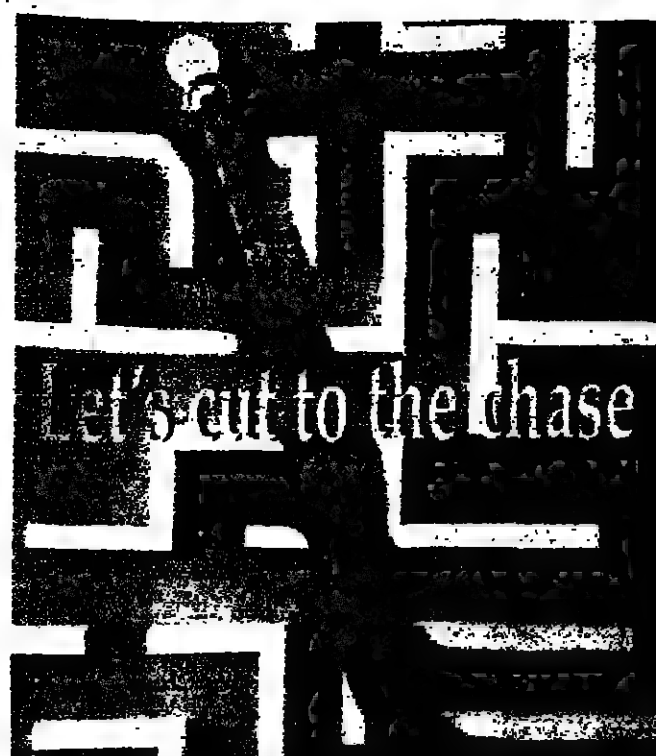
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North West

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This fast-moving international business demands internal lawyers of the highest calibre with ability to operate as fully integrated members of the business. The company's dynamic performance together with the importance that senior management attach to its legal function has now created an opportunity in the North West legal team.

The company requires a commercially focused lawyer with between one and three years experience coupled with the technical and interpersonal skills, presence and confidence to add value and work alongside the business. Additionally you will have the energy, ambition and drive to thrive in this highly commercial environment.

Key responsibilities will include:

- Involvement in joint ventures, teaming and other collaborative agreements.
- Participation in complex contractual negotiations.
- Contribution to a wide range of domestic and international commercial issues.

This is an excellent first move to-house or the opportunity for an in-house lawyer to move into a more business facing legal role in a dynamic, challenging environment. The remuneration package will reflect the organisation's commitment to seeking outstanding individuals.

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Competition for lawyers

The shortage of lawyers on the job market is causing intense competition among law firms. City firms are battling among themselves. They are also having to compete against US firms, accountants' practices, and major law firms in the North.

Lawyers working for commercial firms in the North of England are attractive to City firms. They have a reputation for being commercially aware. They make good technicians. In addition, they are usually excellent lawyers with solid legal experience. For the northern candidates, City firms are attractive because they offer more international experience and a workload of complex, high-value transactions. This recruitment battle is reflected in current salary trends. Our survey of City salaries, following the Spring/Summer reviews, showed assistant solicitors to be earning £30,000 at newly qualified level rising to over £50,000 at the five-year level. These high salaries have prompted a response from the large firms in the North. They are offering salaries rivalled from City firms salaries that match or even exceed City rates. And they are offering the prospect of partnership at an earlier age.

The battle for candidates will intensify until the next recession sets in. When this will be anyone's guess, but those who remember the recruitment scene in the 1980s may sense some similarities with the market in 1997. This would give us a couple of boom years still to come.

Michael Chambers

INDUSTRY Sonya Rayner, Fiona Boxall, Morwenna Lewis, Aileen Shepherd

Commercial Lawyer: Saudi Arabia Experienced international commercial lawyer with at least 15 years' post qualification experience to oversee major construction project. Prior experience of working overseas preferred.

Commercial Lawyer: Rome Excellent opportunity for international commercial lawyer, 4-5 years' pQE to be responsible for Italian operation of major international US company. Must speak fluent Italian and, ideally, be qualified in Italy.

Construction Litigation: London West End co seeks sol/c. 2-5 years' pQE. Workload includes construction, engineering and insurance litigation. Part-time arrangement may be considered.

PRIVATE PRACTICE LONDON: David Woolfson, Simon Anderson SOUTH: Helen Mills, Noel Murray, Hedley Walsh NORTH: Suki Bahra, Paul Thomas

Partnership Positions We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

International Fraud: City Major City litigation firm seeks 2-5 year qualified assistant with high quality fraud/best tracing experience to work on high profile caseload.

Corporate: City Successful medium-sized practice where the individuals thrive more than the grey suits seeks 2-5 year qualified solicitor for high quality caseload.

Shipping Litigation: City Newly to 3 year qualified dry shipping litigator sought by well known shipping firm to work in a small team acting for owners, charterers and P&I Clubs.

Contracts Administrator: Surrey International energy company seeks an experienced contracts lawyer to advise the operating divisions on a variety of contractual matters including amendments to standard terms and conditions.

Spanish Speakers: International Major int'l organisation seeks Spanish speaking sol/c min 5 yrs' exp of comm/M&A work to play significant role in the company's expansion in South/Central America.

Commercial: London/South East Major energy company requires sol/citors 2-5 years' pQE to handle a commercial/corporate caseload relating to refining, marketing and downstream development activities across Europe.

Construction/Projects: City High profile medium City firm seeks 2-4 year qualified non-contentious construction lawyer to assist on a broad range of domestic and international transactions.

Pensions: City Newly qualified solicitor sought by major City firm to train in pension law. Commitment to the subject and good academic background required.

Corporate Recovery: City Major City firm with impressive corporate and banking clientele seeks high calibre 2-5 year qualified insolvency assistant for quality non-contentious work.

Senior Commercial Property: City Leading property practice, inundated with high quality work, seeks 8-12 year qualified sol/c. May suit sol/c who left the City during recession and now wishes to return.

Senior Property Litigation: Surrey Substantial commercial firm seeks property litigator, minimum 3 years' experience with proactive approach to business development, for senior role. £ Excellent.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Colts take over the mantle of unlucky losers

THE big winners kept on going in the National Football League (NFL) on Sunday. The Green Bay Packers eased past the St Louis Rams, the New England Patriots hammered the Buffalo Bills and the Denver Broncos routed the Carolina Panthers. It is about this time of year, though, that attention starts to focus on the unluckiest of the losers, too.

Last season, it was the New York Jets that everyone was talking about. Early in November, their troubles were stacking up. They had an expensive quarterback, Neil O'Donnell, who was on the long-term injury list with a dislocated shoulder, players at each other's throats and a coach, Rich Kotite, who had grown so eccentric that he insisted on onlookers standing to attention during the Jets' training routines.

In Manhattan last winter they were selling T-shirts insinuating that "Jets" stood for

BY OLIVER HOYT

"Just expect to sob", so it is a sure sign that the mantle has been passed that they are now playing the acronym game in Indianapolis where the Colts have lost their first ten games of the season. "Count on losing this Sunday", the shirts read this time.

It is only two years ago that the Colts, marshalled by Jim Harbaugh, their excellent quarterback, came within one Hail Mary pass of appearing in the Super Bowl, but since then they have experienced a dizzying descent and, by Sunday, they were the only team in the NFL not to have won a game this season.

They were on home ground in the RCA Dome for their tenth defeat, beaten 28-13 by the modest Cincinnati Bengals. To compound their humiliation, the Bengals were led by the 36-year-old quarterback, Boomer Esiason, who threw

for two touchdowns after being drafted in for Jeff Blake, the injured starter.

It is the Colts' worst start for more than a decade and there was a poignancy to the comments of Lindy Infante, their coach, after the latest setback. "We have had ten defeats now and they have all been different," he said. "They don't feel any better or any worse. It is obviously extremely depressing."

To add to the woes of the Colts, they, like the Jets before them, have become embroiled in all manner of off-field controversies that have exacerbated their problems. Harbaugh, for instance, is sidelined because of a fracture to his right hand allegedly sustained during a "fud" with Jim Kelly, the NBC television commentator.

For solace, though, the Colts need only look back to the Jets and their improved fortunes. They went into Sunday as clear leaders of the American Football Conference eastern division and it is a measure of the improvement they have made since last year — when they only won one game out of 16 — that many observers were surprised when they slipped to a 24-17 defeat against the Miami Dolphins.

Dan Marino, Miami's veteran quarterback, who had missed training for most of the week with an ankle sprain, completed 18 of 29 passes to seal the win and earn the Dolphins a share of the lead in the division with the Jets. With Bill Parcells at the helm, though, there is little doubt that the Jets are on an upward curve and the hawks have gone back to the drawing board. Winning acronyms are a rarer commodity altogether.

Wing with plenty of talent for Sale

Mark Souster meets a new cap who thought he was out of running for Twickenham

At 10.30 yesterday morning, David Rees was still in bed, sleeping off the effects of the double celebration of Sale's record defeat of Bristol and his subsequent selection for England, which he learned of directly from Clive Woodward on Sunday evening. Callers offering their congratulations were politely but firmly asked to ring back after lunch.

Once he had emerged from beneath the duvet and picked his way past the dirty takeaway curry dishes littering the floor of the flat he shares in Manchester with three friends, among them Matt Moore, his club colleague, Rees could barely stifle his delight. The realisation of what he had achieved and what lay in store against Australia at Twickenham on Saturday was beginning to dawn.

"It's just fantastic. I didn't want to get my hopes up. I had been pleased just to be in the squad. I wondered if I might be in with a shout but I thought not having played much recently might have counted against me. Also there are some good players in that position in England," he said. "After Clive telephoned me it was a long night, but I only had orange juice and a couple of beers — honestly. The lads did the drinking for me."

As for Australia it will be missed training for most of the week with an ankle sprain, completed 18 of 29 passes to seal the win and earn the Dolphins a share of the lead in the division with the Jets. With Bill Parcells at the helm, though, there is little doubt that the Jets are on an upward curve and the hawks have gone back to the drawing board. Winning acronyms are a rarer commodity altogether.



Rees, who makes his debut for England, hopes he can do himself justice

"He is an awesome man, his motivation is something else," Rees said. Consistently high performances last year ensured that Rees, now 23, and a Geordie by birth, was blooded on the England tour to Argentina where he appeared twice. Although one of the few not to

be capped, the experience was invaluable as has been his involvement in the England squad sessions at Bisham Abbey this season.

He returned from South America brimming with vigour, trained hard in pre-season, worked on his pace and agili-

ty, pumped weights — at 5ft 9in, he weighs almost 14 stone — only for misfortune to strike. After three games he required a double hernia operation that kept him out of action for seven weeks. "I had torn a stomach muscle and had the operation immediately

after the European conference game against Montferland. It caused pain in the groin and I couldn't do any sprint training. The operation went well and I'm fine now."

Wasps felt the backlash nine days ago when Rees scored two tries, the second amply demonstrating his power and pace as he burst through three would-be tacklers, among them Lawrence Dallaglio. His timing was immaculate, his return to rude health confirmed by a further hat-trick of tries against Bristol.

Rees had been high on the list of candidates to fill the right wing berth given John Bentley's falling-out at Newcastle. Woodward had pencilled in the player's name several weeks ago when he

'I only had an orange juice and a couple of beers, honestly'

watched Sale play Saracens. An exciting runner and fearless tackler, Rees began life at centre at the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle, but switched to wing — where he was capped at under-21 and A team level — two years ago during Northumberland's run to the county final. A talented all-round sportsman, he has also played football for Newcastle Boys, and was a Northumberland schools sprint champion, as well as a county tennis player.

A degree course in graphic design and advertising took him to Manchester and the attention of Sale. He is in his final year at Manchester Metropolitan University who have been more than helpful in accommodating the demands of his rugby career. In his yet-to-be-completed dissertation he is comparing the projection and treatment of sport on television, a medium on which he should enjoy a heightened profile in the coming weeks.

NFL DETAILS

RESULTS: Dallas 24 Arizona 6; Minnesota 23 Chicago 22; Cincinnati 28 Indianapolis 13; Washington 30 Detroit 7; Jacksonville 24 Kansas City 10; Miami 24 New York Jets 17; Green Bay 17 St Louis 7; Tampa Bay 31 Atlanta 10; Denver 34 Carolina 0; New England 21 Buffalo 10; New Orleans 15 Oakland 10; Tennessee 10 New York Giants 6; Seattle 37 San Diego 31; Pittsburgh 37 Baltimore 0.

American Conference

Team	W	L	PF	PA
Miami	6	4	206	168
New England	6	4	254	166
NY Jets	6	4	237	196
Buffalo	5	5	170	225
Indianapolis	0	10	154	258

Central division

Team	W	L	PF	PA
Jacksonville	7	3	282	202
Pittsburgh	7	3	241	200
Tennessee	5	5	217	197
Baltimore	4	6	210	231
Cincinnati	4	7	191	263

Not including last night's match: Philadelphia vs San Francisco

Western division

Team	W	L	PF	PA
Denver	9	1	302	180
Kansas City	7	3	204	167
Seattle	6	4	233	238
San Diego	4	6	202	261
Oakland	3	7	257	289

National Conference

Eastern division

Team	W	L	PF	PA
NY Giants	6	4	192	190
Washington	5	5	233	182
Dallas	5	5	212	184
Philadelphia	4	5	158	190
Arizona	2	8	170	230

Central division

Team	W	L	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	2	233	178
Minnesota	8	2	238	201
Tampa Bay	7	3	208	172
Detroit	4	6	197	205
Chicago	3	7	187	232

Western division

Team	W	L	PF	PA
San Francisco	5	1	227	108
Carolina	5	5	156	187
New Orleans	3	7	131	208
Atlanta	3	8	189	271
St Louis	2	8	171	238

SAILING: SWEDISH MATCH DOMINATING RACE TO MEET FAVOURABLE WINDS

Krantz extends early advantage

BY EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

In the next day or so, Krantz should come under the influence of a low-pressure system before any of his rivals and roar off in a northwesterly wind at up to 40 knots. He should thus capitalise on his early good fortune, though he was cautious about predicting this yesterday.

"The real race is on," Krantz said. "I mean the race to get south before the high pressure gets in our way. We

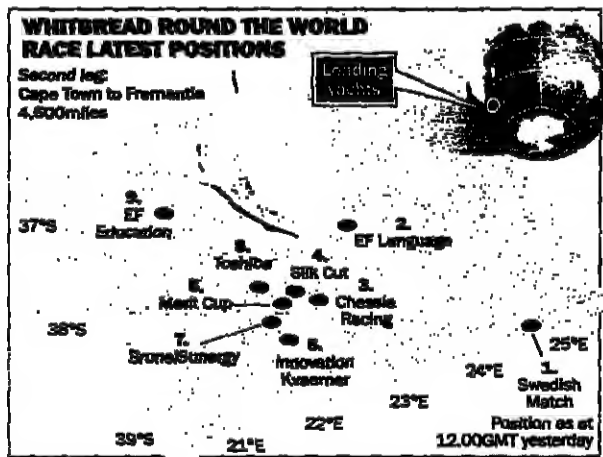
are just on the edge of the centre, with light winds and variable direction. Our goal is to be sailing in 15 knots southwesterly within 12 hours. Then we will know if our theories are right. We painfully experience the difference between theory and reality from time to time, so we will never be sure until it is over."

As the fleet stands at the moment, Cayard is looking comfortable in the overall

standings, something which cannot be said of Standbridge, who inherited a poor sixth place in leg one from Toshiba's outgoing skipper, Chris Dickson. Although Standbridge has repeatedly made clear that he would not try to take a flyer on this leg, he may have no choice if he gets left behind as the boats ahead of him pick up classic Southern Ocean conditions first.

Yesterday Standbridge reflected on a far from ideal start to his career as a W60 skipper. "We are at 38 degrees and a bit south," he said. "So near yet so far from the notorious Roaring Forties. It is very frustrating with neither tack favouring the other, and so we flop around."

Mark Turner, of Great Britain, on Carphone Warehouse, was last night on course for third place in the second leg of the Mini-Transat single-handed race. Turner still had 440 miles to sail yesterday and is expected to reach the finish at Fort de France, Martinique, tomorrow. Thomas Coville leads from his fellow Frenchman, Pierre-Marie Bourguinat. Elan MacArthur, of Britain, on Financial Dynamics, was lying in thirteenth place yesterday.



WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE LATEST POSITIONS

Second leg: Cape Town to Fremantle, 4,600 miles

Leading boats:

- 1. Swedish Match (Sve) 4,367.2
- 2. EF Language (Sve) 4,369.7
- 3. Carphone Warehouse (GB) 4,373.2
- 4. S&P Out (GB) 4,380.2
- 5. West Coast (Sve) 4,382.6
- 6. Frenchman (F) 4,383.3
- 7. Brunei Sailing (Mal) 4,385.5
- 8. Toshiba (JPN) 4,389.8
- 9. EF Education (Sve) 4,430.5

BOWLS

Ireland earn slice of good fortune

BY GORDON DUNWOODIE

IRELAND increased their lead over the defending champions, England, in the European indoor team championship in Jersey yesterday to six points, after five rounds involving the men's and women's pairs and triples disciplines. Ireland have 18 points followed by England on 12.

The Irish began the day with wins from the women's pairs and triples against Israel. Muriel Wilkinson and Margaret Johnston finished 25-12 ahead, and Isabel Bell, Dessie Baird and Phillis Nolan counted on five of the closing six ends to snatch a 12-11 victory.

Ireland also claimed a full complement of points from the men's games in round five. Roy Bantersby and Gary McLoyle were fortunate to beat Guernsey 18-17. At one shot down and one against, McLoyle

had a lucky connection on a short front bowl that deflected his bowl towards the jack picking up a count of two for the game.

In the men's triples, England moved two ahead for the first time in the game on the twentieth end, but an inspired last-bowl delivery from Jonathan Ross turned the game in Ireland's favour.

The England pairing of Brett Morley and David Holt had a comfortable 33-14 win over hosts, Lee Nixon and Tim Mallet, from Jersey. Wales beat Israel 23-14, but the result was not a true reflection of the intensity of the game. Wales and Jersey stay in contact in the overall team position on ten points, behind Ireland and England, with Guernsey on six points and Israel on four.

Results, page 52

DANCE SPORT

England couple on top of the world

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

CHRISTOPHER Hawkins and Hazel Newberry have captured the first world amateur championship title for England for nearly a decade. Hawkins, 24 and Newberry, 23, were celebrating last night after defeating the Italian couple, William Pino and Alessandra Bucciarelli, in a close-fought contest in Karlsruhe, Germany.

More than 70 couples competed for the title, last won for England by Andrew Sinkinson and Loraine Barry, in 1988 and 1989. Last year's winners, Massimo Giorgianni and Alessia Manfredini, did not take part, having turned professional. England's No 2 couple, Alan and Donna Shingler, were third.

Hawkins, who beat Pino at the recent international championships in London and at the United States Open in

Miami, has had the title in his sights since he began dancing as a young boy.

He won the waltz in the final with six out of seven firsts, the one Italian judge marking Pino to win, but Pino took the second dance, the tango, by five to two. With everything still at stake, the six couples went into the Viennese waltz, which Hawkins then won. Not until he had taken the fox trot as well could he rest assured the title was his, even though Pino then snatched the quickeststep, in which Hawkins usually is strongest.

Hawkins and Newberry are now the first British amateurs for many years to have won both the world championship and the Open British in the same year. Their next goal is to take the closed British title in Blackpool next week.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Race for title to go into extra time

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE WINNERS of the Super League next season will be determined by an Australian-style play-off system for the top five clubs, with a grand final at Old Trafford replacing the usual finale of the Premiership.

There are plans, too, for a short mid-season break for a three, four or five nations' championship. This is intended to bolster the game's international profile ahead of Great Britain's participation in the World Cup in the southern hemisphere next October and November.

With no chance of a repeat of the world club championship, at least not next year, and an increase in the Super League from 12 to 14 clubs not due until 1999, the season would look threadbare without changes, which are also designed to appeal to potential sponsors after the withdrawal of Stone.

The conclusion to the league programme in August would be followed by play-offs to determine the outright winners. These are intended to add meaning and interest to the tail end of the season,

which has been occupied by the Premiership since 1973.

The Rugby Football League (RFL) has discontinued the Silk Cut Plate competition for lower division clubs after one year, and on Friday the RFL board will consider a recommendation by first and second division clubs to return to one division of 16 teams.

Phil Lowe, the Great Britain team manager, is incensed that Gordon Tallis, the Australia forward, is available for the deciding match of the British Gas series at Elland Road on Sunday. He wants a meeting with Phil Houston, the referee, to ensure consistency about high tackles.

Tallis was placed on report for one of three potentially dangerous challenges during Britain's victory at Old Trafford on Saturday, but he has been cleared to play in the decider. Eric Hughes is being linked with the coaching job at Barrow after his dismissal by Wigan, where his successor, John Morris, has offered one-year deals to Robbie McCormack, the Hunter Mariners hooker, and Mark Horo, the Auckland Warriors forward.

RUGBY UNION

Fitzpatrick causes concern

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THOUGH Jonah Lomu's return to a New Zealand shirt for the first time in more than a year will be the main focus of attention when the All Blacks play Wales A in Pontypridd this evening, the tour management will be equally concerned that Sean Fitzpatrick should survive a fitness test successfully. Fitzpatrick — hooker, captain and All Black icon — is not due to play at Sardis Road but he withdrew from the demolition of Llanelli last Saturday still troubled by the knee that required a cartilage operation ten weeks ago.

It would take something out of the ordinary to remove him from the forthcoming international against Ireland, England (twice) and Wales, but New Zealand will take no risks with the player who has led the team since 1992.

Fitzpatrick will undergo his test this morning; in the evening Lomu will don the black jersey for the first time since August 27 last year, when he appeared in a lacklustre 18-18 draw with Griqualand West in Kimberley.

Though he subsequently visited England with the New Zealand Barbarians in November, Lomu was forced out of rugby because of the kidney ailment that has required such rigorous treatment.

He returned in time to help Counties to the final of the national provincial championship last month and the privilege — if that is what it is — of marking the giant wing falls to Gareth Thomas.

Wales A know what to expect. "We said we were going out to set a benchmark for the tour and we have done that in our first match," Christian Cullen, who scored four tries from full back in the 81-3 defeat of Llanelli, said.

Wales A: M Beck (Swansea); G Thomas (Cardiff); M Brooker (Llanelli); J Lewis (Cardiff); D James (Pontypridd); S Gwynne (Gwent); A Moore (Richmond); I Barber (Swansea); G Jones (Swansea); C Anthony (Swansea); C Sheel (Llanelli); P Jones (Cardiff); C Sheel (Llanelli); M Barber (Swansea); M Williams (Pontypridd); C Wynn (Llanelli); NEW ZEALANDERS: T Miller; T Umaga; S McLeod; W Lata; J Larm; C Springer; M Robinson; C Beattie; A Cooch; C Chen; C Redmond; M Conley; T Blackadder (captain); M Carter; S Samu.

Draw puts Rusedski on red alert

Predictably, much was made of the psychological effect of Rusedski's defeat by Rafter in New York. But the Australian, world ranked No 3 to Rusedski's No 5, made the most telling point. "I do

Rusedski is making his first appearance in this end-of-season jamboree for the world's leading eight players. He arrives with his form a



notch below the standard that saw him take the start of the European indoor season by storm.

A semi-final appearance in the Grand Slam Cup — where he was beaten by Sampras — preceded victory in Basel and an unfortunate defeat, by Goran Ivanisevic, in the final at Vienna. Since then, however, the Canadian-born left-hander has not recaptured that level of performance.

Most recently, Rusedski lost to Jan Siemerink, world

ranked No 105, in Stockholm last week. Although that came in the semi-final, Rusedski won just two matches, against undistinguished opponents, to progress that far.

Yet he remains undeterred by the implications of that defeat — inflicted when the after-effects of a stomach virus left him short of peak fitness. Now fully rehabilitated, he is clearly optimistic that he, as Britain's first representative at these championships, will make an impression.

"My life has changed a lot in the last three months," he said. "I have gone from No 56 in the world to No 4; everyone recognises me in the street now. It is very special to be here and I see it as a good opportunity to take another step up against the top eight players in the world."

If the draw has been unkind, it should not be forgotten that Rusedski's achievements have already helped to make this a banner year for British tennis.

This year, however, things are different. When the tournament begins today, the best that Britain has to offer, Greg Rusedski, will be in Hanover playing against the best in the world and while Telford can boast Tim Henman as top seed, he has said that this will be his last appearance in the nationals.

Despite all that, Henman's nearest rival is ranked 125 places below him at No 143. In theory he should win with ease but the nationals are more like a gala performance and he will not want to be unseated

RUSSENKO'S RECORD AGAINST THE SEVEN FINALISTS

<p>W v Haidumov: Overall: trials 4-2 (this season: leads 4-0, Most recent match: IS Open semi-final (hard-court); September 1997); Rusedzki won 5-3, 3-6, 3-4, 6-3, 6-2.</p> <p>W v Haidumov: Overall: trials 0-1 (yet to start this season); Most recent match: 1998 Olympics (hard-court); Bruguera won 7-6, 7-5.</p> <p>W v Ginepro: Overall: trials 2-6 (this season: leads 1-0, Most recent match: February 1997, San Jose grand-slam (hard-court); Rusedzki won 7-6, 5-4, 6-2).</p> <p>W v Kafelnikov: Overall: trials 2-2 (this season: leads 1-0, Most recent match: Moscow-1997, Best of five; Novitskiy won 3-6, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2).</p>	<p>W v Haidumov: Overall: trials 5-4, 5-3, 6-3.</p> <p>W v Haidumov: Overall: trials 2-1 (this season: leads 1-0, Most recent match: September 1997, Moscow-1997 semi-final; Hays won 6-2, 6-2).</p> <p>W v Haidumov: Overall: trials 1-3 (this season: leads 1-2, Most recent match: September 1997, US Open final (hard-court); Rafter won 5-3, 6-2, 4-6, 7-6).</p> <p>W v Haidumov: Overall: trials 0-5 (this season: leads 0-4, Most recent match: September 1997, Grand Slam Cup, semi-final (hard-court); Sampras won 3-6, 7-6, 7-6, 6-2).</p>
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Peter Marshall, the Nottingham double-hander who unexpectedly reached the world open semi-finals last week, has been promoted to second string for England, behind

Simon Parke, but he was rested yesterday.

Pakistan ran their strongest line-up of Zubair Jahan, Anjad Khan and Kumail Mehmood, and failed to capture a single game from Parke and the experienced Essex duo of Del Harris and Chris Walker.

The open last week was the

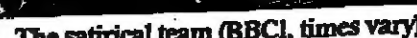
played here between the first two nations in each qualifying pool.

Scotland, also playing without their strongest performer, Peter Nicol, the beaten world open finalist on Sunday, also started well in Pool D, beating Argentina 3-0.

Ireland defeated Austrin 2-1 in Pool F, but Wales just failed in Pool B to overturn the third seeded Egyptians. Alex Gough, of Wales, who reached the world open semi-final, took Ahmed Barada, the world No 7, to five games before retiring.

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Ten-minute films may be good discipline for those who make them but they can leave the viewer feeling that there is more to be said. Kathleen Byrnes's memories of her relationship on and off screen with Michael Powell during the making of *Black Narcissus* is one recent subject that cried out for fuller treatment. The same can be said about



the first film in this new series on the theme of friendship. Melanie and Nick first met ten years ago when they were 16. They fell into what he calls a very intense relationship which has endured to this day, even though she has had a child by somebody else and he has taken a gay partner. The story is unusual, and the elliptical style in which it is told only increases the fascination. But ten minutes are hardly enough.

Auntie: The Inside Story of the BBC
BBC1, 10.45pm (N.I., 11.40; not Wales)

The BBC history reaches the 1960s, which for anybody who lived through it still stands out as a golden age. Shamed by ITV, which had taken 75 per cent of the television audience, and under an arrogant Director General in Hugh Cleton Greene, the BBC shook off its legendary stuffiness and embarked on a decade of extraordinary boldness and innovation. The roll-call of programmes, each a mould-breaker in its way, runs from *Z Cars* to *Stephens and Son*, *Till Death Us Do Part*, *That Was the Week That Was* and *Cathy Come Home*. It was the decade, too, of *Dr Who*, *The Forger Sings and Civilisation*. All this is duly chronicled, faithfully if a little dry, along with less colourful episodes such as the 1964-65 *Waking in the Morning* nuclear horror story, *The Wall Game*, and Harold Wilson appointing Lord Hill as BBC chairman in an attempt to clip Greene's wings.

Peter Waynman

A special programme for the evening of Armistice Day is presented by Tony Robinson and Paul McGarr. Radio 2 has deservedly won plaudits for this type of programme and tonight a special one is presented by Tony Robinson on the 80th anniversary of the Somme. Tonight's programme marks another 80th anniversary, that of the Third Battle of Ypres, or Passchendaele as it is more widely remembered. The statistics of Passchendaele are no less horrifying for being familiar: four months of fighting, 500,000 casualties, six miles of ground won for the British, and then it all came back the following spring. Tonight's programme includes the recollections of local people, poetry readings by McGarr, music and *The Lost Post*.

8.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Bell 8.0
Jo Wiley. Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat
4.00 Dave Pearce 6.15 Newsbeat 8.30 E
Digital Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up
Bruce 11.30 David Aeronovich 1.30pm I
Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.05
Classical Gas 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00
Presented by Neil Innes (3/5) 8.30 Fand
10.30 Richard Atkinson 12.00am Steve
Lester

6.00pm The Breakfast Programme 9.00 News
Midday with Mel 2.00pm Ruocco on Five
Julian Worricker 7.00 News Extra with De
Tuesday Match Mark Pougatch presents
tonight's top game 10.00 News Talk with
Mel 11.00pm The Big Breakfast 12.00am

5.00am Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evans
Banks (AM) Graham Dene 1.00pm (FM)
Nicky Home 4.00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM)
Cairn Jones 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am

6.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGilhan 9
12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd
7.00 Anna Rieburn 9.00 James Whale 1

6:00am **Newsday** 3:30 **Europe Today** 7:00 **News** 7:15 **Off the Shelf**: The Color of Money 8:00 **Frontierline** 8:00 **News** 8:15 **Paul** 8:30 **Thoughts** 8:45 **News** 8:50 **Everywhere** 9:00 **News** 9:15 **The Deal with Drugs** 9:30 **Literature** **Flick** **The Mill** on the **Plains** 9:45 **Southbound** 10:00 **Newsday** 10:30 **On Screen** 10:45 **News** 11:00 **News** 11:15 **News** 11:30 **News** 11:45 **News** 12:00pm **World Business Report** 12:15 **British** **Today** 12:30 **Health Matters** 12:45 **Sports Roundup** 1:00 **News Hour** 1:30 **News** 2:00 **Outlook** 2:30 **Matchback** **Live** **Last** **30** **News** 2:45 **News** 3:00 **News** 3:15 **News** 3:30 **News** 3:45 **News** 4:00 **News** 4:15 **Soundbites** 4:30 **The World** **Today** **News** **in** **German** (648) **off** 4:45 **Britain** **Today** 5:00 **Europe** **Today** 5:30 **World** **Business** **Report** 5:45 **Southbound** 6:00 **News** 6:15 **News** 6:30 **News** 6:45 **News** 7:00 **News** 7:15 **News** 7:30 **News** 7:45 **News** 8:00 **News** 8:15 **News** 8:30 **News** 8:45 **News** 9:00 **News** 9:15 **News** 9:30 **News** 9:45 **News** 10:00 **News** 10:15 **News** 10:30 **News** 10:45 **News** 11:00 **News** 11:15 **News** 11:30 **News** 11:45 **News** 12:00 **News** 12:15 **News** 12:30 **News** 12:45 **News** 1:00 **News** 1:15 **News** 1:30 **News** 1:45 **News** 2:00 **News** 2:15 **News** 2:30 **News** 2:45 **News** 3:00 **News** 3:15 **News** 3:30 **News** 3:45 **News** 4:00 **News** 4:15 **News** 4:30 **News** 4:45 **News** 5:00 **News** 5:15 **News** 5:30 **News** 5:45 **News** 6:00 **News** 6:15 **News** 6:30 **News** 6:45 **News** 7:00 **News** 7:15 **News** 7:30 **News** 7:45 **News** 8:00 **News** 8:15 **News** 8:30 **News** 8:45 **News** 9:00 **News** 9:15 **News** 9:30 **News** 9:45 **News** 10:00 **News** 10:15 **News** 10:30 **News** 10:45 **News** 11:00 **News** 11:15 **News** 11:30 **News** 11:45 **News** 12:00 **News** 12:15 **News** 12:30 **News** 12:45 **News** 1:00 **News** 1:15 **News** 1:30 **News** 1:45 **News** 2:00 **News** 2:15 **News** 2:30 **News** 2:45 **News** 3:00 **News** 3:15 **News** 3:30 **News** 3:45 **News** 4:00 **News** 4:15 **News** 4:30 **News** 4:45 **News** 5:00 **News** 5:15 **News** 5:30 **News** 5:45 **News** 6:00 **News** 6:15 **News** 6:30 **News** 6:45 **News** 7:00 **News** 7:15 **News** 7:30 **News** 7:45 **News** 8:00 **News** 8:15 **News** 8:30 **News** 8:45 **News** 9:00 **News** 9:15 **News** 9:30 **News** 9:45 **News** 10:00 **News** 10:15 **News** 10:30 **News** 10:45 **News** 11:00 **News** 11:15 **News** 11:30 **News** 11:45 **News** 12:00 **News** 12:15 **News** 12:30 **News** 12:45 **News** 1:00 **News** 1:15 **News** 1:30 **News** 1:45 **News** 2:00 **News** 2:15 **News** 2:30 **News** 2:45 **News** 3:00 **News** 3:15 **News** 3:30 **News** 3:45 **News** 4:00 **News** 4:15 **News** 4:30 **News** 4:45 **News** 5:00 **News** 5:15 **News** 5:30 **News** 5:45 **News** 6:00 **News** 6:15 **News** 6:30 **News** 6:45 **News** 7:00 **News** 7:15 **News** 7:30 **News** 7:45 **News** 8:00 **News** 8:15 **News** 8:30 **News** 8:45 **News** 9:00 **News** 9:15 **News** 9:30 **News** 9:45 **News** 10:00 **News** 10:15 **News** 10:30 **News** 10:45 **News** 11:00 **News** 11:15 **News** 11:30 **News** 11:45 **News** 12:00 **News** 12:15 **News** 12:30 **News** 12:45 **News** 1:00 **News** 1:15 **News** 1:30 **News** 1:45 **News** 2:00 **News** 2:15 **News** 2:30 **News** 2:45 **News** 3:00 **News** 3:15 **News** 3:30 **News** 3:45 **News** 4:00 **News** 4:15 **News** 4:30 **News** 4:45 **News** 5:00 **News** 5:15 **News** 5:30 **News** 5:45 **News** 6:00 **News** 6:15 **News** 6:30 **News** 6:45 **News** 7:00 **News** 7:15 **News** 7:30 **News** 7:45 **News** 8:00 **News** 8:15 **News** 8:30 **News** 8:45 **News** 9:00 **News** 9:15 **News** 9:30 **News** 9:45 **News** 10:00 **News** 10:15 **News** 10:30 **News** 10:45 **News** 11:00 **News** 11:15 **News** 11:30 **News** 11:45 **News** 12:00 **News** 12:15 **News** 12:30 **News** 12:45 **News** 1:00 **News** 1:15 **News** 1:30 **News** 1:45 **News** 2:00 **News** 2:15 **News** 2:30 **News** 2:45 **News** 3:00 **News** 3:15 **News** 3:30 **News** 3:45 **News** 4:00 **News** 4:15 **News** 4:30 **News** 4:45 **News** 5:00 **News** 5:15 **News** 5:30 **News** 5:45 **News** 6:00 **News** 6:15 **News** 6:30 **News** 6:45 **News** 7:00 **News** 7:15 **News** 7:30 **News** 7:45 **News** 8:00 **News** 8:15 **News** 8:30 **News** 8:45 **News** 9:00 **News** 9:15 **News** 9:30 **News** 9:45 **News** 10:00 **News** 10:15 **News** 10:30 **News** 10:45 **News** 11:00 **News** 11:15 **News** 11:30 **News** 11:45 **News** 12:00 **News** 12:15 **News** 12:30 **News** 12:45 **News** 1:00 **News** 1:15 **News** 1:30 **News** 1:45 **News** 2:00 **News** 2:15 **News** 2:30 **News** 2:45 **News** 3:00 **News** 3:15 **News** 3:30 **News** 3:45 **News**

8,000s Alan Martin. News and Inverisports, including Morning March and Broadside Baroque 8,000 Henry Kelly. Includes The Classic Messiaenpiece, Hall of Fame Hour and a recipe for beer/cobbler from the resident chef Michael Bay 1,000s Listener Request Hour. Introduced by James Jones 2,000s Concerto, Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 3 in G) 3,000 Jamie Crick 7,000s Newlight. Presented by John Brunning 7,300 Sonatas. DeWolfe (Felix Sonatas in D) 8,300 Evening Concert. Arnold (Suite, The Bridge on the River Kwai); George Sutherland (A Shropshire Lad); Elton (Morning Heroes) 10,000 Michael Shepherd. Includes at 11:35 Nocturne 2,000s Concerto (in C) 3,000s Michael Crick.

- 9.00 *On Air*, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Cardoso (Misses Regina Ceali); Strauss (Le Cardoues Gentilhomme, Prelude to Act 2 Dinner); Debussy (Marche d'accession); Alkan (Le Fils du Chapelain); Chopin (Prelude in G-flat major); Humperdinck (From Concerto in D).
- 9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Chopin (Three Mazurkas); Haydn (String Quartet in D).
- 10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris Wines. Virvid (Violin Concerto in G); Chopin (Barcarolle in Flat Major); Szymanowski (Silent Meter); Debussy (Prelude for Rite, from Suite for Piano, No. 12); Zhou Long (Two Poems from Tang); Dutilleul (Piano Sonata); Corbett (Concerto of Irelandness).
- 12.00 *Composers of the Week: Ligeti*
- 1.00 *Pop The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert*. David Campbell, clarinet, Madeleine Mitchell, violin. Set pieces: Debussy (Prelude in G-flat major); Tchaikovsky (Souvenir d'un lieu cher); Stravinsky (Suite The Soldier's Tale) (F).
- 2.00 *The BBC Radio 3 Concerts*. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and BBC Concert Orchestra, with Robert Cohen, solo. Includes Bartok (Overture Rite Roy); Beethoven (Symphony No 5 (E minor)); Elan (C minor); Debussy (Concerto for Symphony No 2 in D).
- 4.00 *Vocalise*. Spotlight on Barbara Bonney (F).
- 4.45 *Musical Milestone*. Tommy Pearson explores the history of the ongoing partnership between drugs and music.

8.55c (LW) *Sleeping Forecast*, 6.00 News Bringing
8.70 Farming Today 6.25 Pzzy For The Day 6.30
Today 8.40 Yesterday In Parliament 8.58 Weather
News 9.05 Call Ed Scurrion, 0171-550 4444
9.00 (LW) *The Last Days Of Pompeii*. A play which
as it attempts to cross Australia by Burke and Wills
in the 1860s which ended in tragedy at Cooper's
Creek (42)
(LW) Daily Service
0.15 (LW) On This Day, With Geoffrey Whelan.
0.30 Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jenni Murray
1.15 *My Darling Clementine*. A classic western as
how people suffering from mental illness are
perceived in the workplace and in the community
2.25 *Blackadder II*. A comedy series about the
court of Edward I. A new episode.
2.25 *Bombardier Library* slapstick from Mark Thomas,
Roger McGough, Dile Keane and Miles Kingston,
chaired by Ian McMillan 12.55 Weather
1.00 *Portrait of Groucho*
1.40 *The Archers* (C) 1.35 *Sleeping Forecast*
2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre; Curds and
Cream; *Paisley Park*; *Not in Scotland*
border town. With Ann Scott-Jones in a Scottish
and Ian Briggs
2.30 *Mirrored in Music*, International musicians
create and discuss music describing the
chances and risks involved in their careers.
Andrew Garret talks to the German baritone Olaf
Bar (26)
3.00 *The Ashmolean Writing*. Presented by Diane Braban
4.00 *Johnnie Walker's Kaledonia*. Paul Vaughan tells
the current state of affairs for youngsters and

4.45	Indica the best children's books for Christmas
5.00	Short Story: The Legend of the Blind Girl, by Diane Garmier, read by Eve Matheson
5.00	PM 8.50 Shopping Forecast 8.55 Weather
6.00	6.00 The Book of the Week
6.30	Imperial Palace, Arnold Bennett's classic novel set in the 1920s, dramatised by Peter Ling (24/4)
6.30	6.30 The Book of the Week
7.20	File on 4, Interview by Liz Carney
7.20	7.20 Science Now, with Peter Evans (5)
8.30	8.30 Grandmothers' Footsteps: The second of two programmes from a long-running series sends out to explore the cultural differences between children's two grandmothers. One is from a rural village in India, the other from a cragging community in the north of England
9.00	9.00 In Touch, Peter White with news, views and information for visually impaired people
9.00	9.00 Goldendays on 4, with Peter White
9.00	9.00 The World Tonight, with Ian Hinton
9.45	9.45 Book at Bedtime: The Clothes They Stood Up To, written and read by Alan Bennett, abridged by Gillian Hume (27)
1.00	1.00 Medicine Week: The week's events in the media (5)
1.30	1.30 (LW) Foreign in Parliament
1.30	1.30 (LW) Foreign Correspondence, The BBC's reports on different correspondents, Caroline White, reflects on the conflict between the Green-capital from George Eliot, Marx, Lenin and Wagner
2.00	2.00 News 12.50pm The Late Book: Funny Boy
2.00	2.00 News 12.50pm The Late Book: Funny Boy
2.45	2.45 News 12.50pm The Late Book: Funny Boy

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.5-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 85.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5. LIVE. MW 693, 908. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1088.
Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McInerney.

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RACING 51

Sparky Gale sets sights on Gold Cup glory

SPORT

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 11 1997

TENNIS 54

Rusedski faces toughest task in Hanover



Woodward's revolution takes shape

CLIVE WOODWARD was true to his word yesterday. England's first full-time rugby union coach, who has been in office for just eight weeks, named five newcomers in his team to play Australia at Twickenham on Saturday: a team that in many positions is as green as grass, yet has been offered an unparalleled opportunity.

Normally, only world war create such upheavals in an England team. Of the XV that started against Australia in Sydney in July, only three remain — Lawrence Dallaglio, now the captain, Richard Hill and Mike Catt. Of them, Catt has moved from fly half to centre and will be the goalkicker. Of the XV that completed the five nations' championship last season in second place to France, only four remain, of whom Catt and Jason Leonard have changed positions.

It is change on an enormous scale, as exciting as it is revolutionary. Many will say it is rash to the point of foolhardy, but, to his credit, Woodward has put his money where his mouth is and is treading where none of his predecessors would dare have gone. He has looked at more experienced players, he has recognised that many of them are playing below known form, and has opted for those who are playing with confidence and skill, regardless of age or experience.

He has selected Matt Perry at full back, David Rees (right wing), Will Greenwood (cen-

David Hands on the England coach's first bold steps into a brave new world

tre), Andy Long (hooker) and Will Green (tight-head prop) to make their international debuts. In addition, Alex King, whose experience amounts to 22 minutes against Argentina in June, is given his chance at fly half, while Adeayo Adebayo, Garath Archer, Tony Diprose and Hill can muster no more than a dozen caps between them.

Nor has Woodward shied from moving players into

Wing for Sale — 53

what he perceives as their optimum position: Perry has been playing centre for Bath this season with Catt as his fly half, while Leonard reverts to his favoured role of loose-head prop after two years on the tight-head side. The younger element are known to Woodward, however. Perry and Long, both only 20, played under him when he coached the England Under-21s and he has a better idea of their resilience than many. Indeed Long is the fourth hooker to be capped this year, after Mark Regan, Phil Greening and Richard Cockerill.

Green and Rees, 22 and 23 respectively, have been in

ebullient form for Wasps and Sale, respectively, the former confirming his place against the Brive front row as recently as Sunday, the latter scoring tries with abandon after recovering from a hernia operation. Greenwood, the Leicester centre, is, at 25, the oldest of the newcomers but his star has been rising for more than a year and carried him to South Africa with the British Isles during the summer.

He also has a pedigree. Dick Greenwood, his father, captained England from the back row 28 years ago and coached England between 1983-86. He was there in Bloemfontein when Greenwood junior suffered a life-threatening injury playing for the Lions against Free State, jarring his head so severely in a tackle that only prompt medical attention saved him. That the centre began the season a little tentatively is, perhaps, no surprise but in recent weeks his confidence has returned.

"I have picked the team that contains the best 15 players in their positions in England at the moment," Woodward said. That excludes 11 of the 22 Englishmen who appeared for the Lions during the summer, of whom only three — Jeremy Guscott (who needs an operation on his back), Tony Underwood and Tim Simpson — are injured.

The unlikeliest of the remaining eight is Matt Dawson, the Northampton scrum half, who effectively loses out to the Saracens unit at Nos 7, 8 and 9.

There can be no doubt that Kyrn Bracken and Diprose helped each other into the national team, nor that their form in the Allied Dunbar Premiership game with



England expects: Greenwood, King, Green, Long, Rees and Perry will be making their first starts for the national team on Saturday



Australia unhappy at tour build-up

ROD MACQUEEN could offer little comment yesterday on the England team that his Australians will meet at Twickenham on Saturday: he has problems enough of his own as he endeavours to lift the spirits of a party deflated by their recent visit to Argentina yet with two international matches still to be played (David Hands writes).

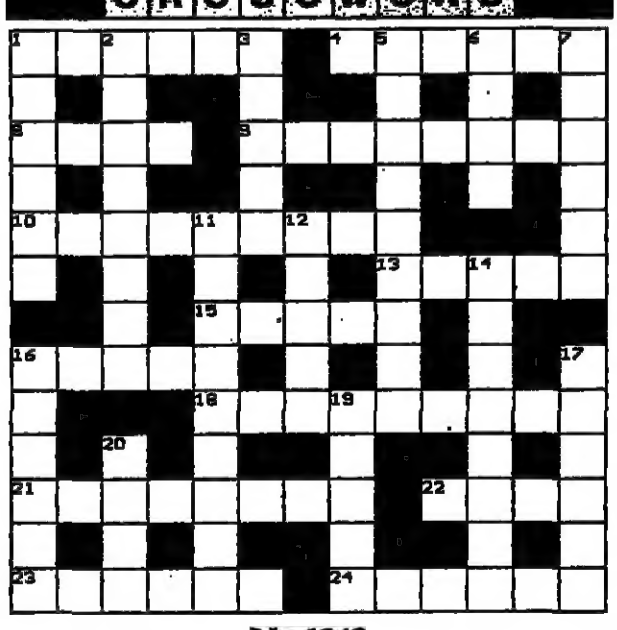
Australia will name their XV this morning, three days after suffering an 18-16 defeat in Buenos Aires which left the series shared at 1-1 and critics describing them as "spineless." Macqueen, who took over as national coach after the resignation in August of Greg Smith, admitted that the Wallabies had provided ample ammunition for such comments on what has been a disappointing introduction to international rugby.

"We have not been playing well," he said candidly. "We thought that by now we would have been putting some good play together. We have trained well, we have put a lot of time and effort into putting together a simple style but it has not come off." In fact Macqueen would have welcomed another midweek game interspersed with the internationals against England and, on November 22, Scotland.

His schedule has been top-heavy with internationals, four of them compared with three provincial games. More over injury forced him to leave behind such influential players as Matthew Burke, Jason Little and Daniel Manu, and they have now been joined by David Knox, the fly half, who suffered a severe dislocation of his finger against the Argentinians.

Knox is one of seven players who returned to Sydney over the weekend, leaving Macqueen to ponder the choice of Elton Flaitley, the young Queenslander, for his first full cap or returning to Pat Howard at fly half.

CROSSWORD



No 1248

- ACROSS
- Gain (6)
 - Stagnation (6)
 - Classy (4)
 - Swine Jesus sent over cliff (8)
 - Observe (eg birthday) (9)
 - Truck (5)
 - Horror (5)
 - Dirty mark; aspersion (5)
 - Nice smell (9)
 - Transparently clear (8)
 - Greek king of gods (4)
 - Estimation, reckoned (6)
 - Star sign, Apr/May (6)
- DOWN
- Holy Father's office (6)
 - Out of date (8)
 - Wild beast; a SE Asian economy (5)
 - Anyone there? he asked (De la Mare) (9)
 - Cook slowly; fishpond (4)
 - Aperitif from Spain (6)
 - Be productive (4,5)
 - First Greek letter (5)
 - The caribou (8)
 - A Royal Engineer; old thriller writer (6)
 - Population count (6)
 - Two brazen walked for him (Buckley) (5)
 - Minor, irregular reading (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1247

ACROSS: 6 Scourge 7 Virus 9 Trend 10 Gironde 11 Figure of fun 14 Legal tender 17 Wattage 19 Rodeo 21 River 22 Potency

DOWN: 1 Sole 2 Prodigal 3 Ledger 4 Awer 5 Transfer 6 Site 8 Seeing 11 Fugitive 12 Obdurate 13 Flower 15 Exempt 16 Poy 18 Acre 20 Dunk

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Schumacher and Formula One stand side by side in the dock

BY MICHAEL CALVIN

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER will be fortunate to escape with a record fine in the region of \$2 million (about £1.2 million) today, when he faces Formula One's equivalent of the High Court. The subsequent appearance of the McLaren and Williams teams, to answer disclosures in *The Times*, will complete an unprecedented attempt to preserve the sport's credibility.

Schumacher's case, arising from his collision with Jacques Villeneuve that resulted in the Canadian becoming world champion at the European Grand Prix on October 26, is of fundamental importance because Formula One cannot be seen to subjugate its wider responsibilities to the commercial importance of its most celebrated driver.

The secondary issue, involving the apparent manipulation of the Jerez result by two of the sport's leading teams, is equally complex, and no less intriguing. Max Mosley, president of the FIA, the governing body of motorsport, decided that Williams and McLaren, had a case to answer yesterday, when he received a report from Charlie Whiting, the official observer.

This was prompted by the publication, in *The Times* on Saturday, of transcripts of conversations between Schumacher, Villeneuve and their respective pit crews. Whiting has since heard the two secret tapes, on which the report in *The Times* was based. They are now in the possession of the FIA.

teams have breached article 151 (4) of the FIA's international sporting code, which covers conduct "prejudicial to the interests of any competition, or of motorsport generally". The teams deny collusion, and the case will centre on Villeneuve's actions, which allowed Mika Hakkinen through for his first grand prix win. Mosley, who will chair the 24-man council, which also includes Bernie Ecclestone, the Formula One impresario, said: "The race director, combining what he saw of events in Jerez with the transcripts and the tapes, decided there was enough evidence to warrant further investigation."

The cynics suggest the case is linked to the status of Williams and McLaren, as leading dissidents in the debate about the constitution of Formula One in the run-up to stock market flotation. Schumacher's defence, against allegations that he deliberately rammed Villeneuve, also has the potential to

affect the delicate balance of political power within the sport.

If he is found guilty, a reasonable assumption given that most independent observers are convinced there was malicious intent in the collision, approaching the Dry Sack curve at Jerez, a seven-figure fine is a probability. A ban is also likely, but, intriguingly, probation has been put forward as an alternative. One imaginative option involves linking the length of the suspension to Schumacher's behaviour over a given number of races next season. This would ensure massive interest in the early-season grands prix and still ensure that Schumacher operates under a self-inflicted handicap.

However, there are those who believe that only a year's suspension is appropriate. The need for a firm moral lead has been best expressed by the new team owner, Jackie Stewart, a long-term advocate of driver safety. He accepts Schumacher's contention that the incident could have been spontaneous, but insists that it was "neither ethical nor allowable".

He expects the FIA to make an example of him. "Behaviour of that type has not just to be discouraged but eliminated," he said. "You can bet that every young driver was watching the Jerez race. If they see someone getting off with that sort of behaviour, it will be mirrored at every level of the sport."

"I still believe there is room for ethics in grand prix racing, room for morals. There is a lack of them, in all avenues. I

don't think the problem lies just with Schumacher. These days it is common practice either to block someone or even to come into contact with them. That seems acceptable today, but we must be stricter. If something is not done, it will end in tears, with a massive accident."

The irony is that Schumacher's talent is beyond debate. Even Frank Williams, looking back on the 1997 season last week, before the disclosures in *The Times*, admitted that his disciplinary problems evoked conflicting emotions. His first reaction to the incident "was not one of instant outrage".

Sleeze row — 1

He said: "It was one of concern, and relief. Everyone realised Jacques was lucky to stay on the road. When I saw Michael in the gravel-trap I thought, 'silly boy', but my gut feeling was that he had acted instinctively rather than in any premeditated manner."

As the magnitude of the incident became clear, I began to appreciate Jacques' anger. I know how hard he worked for that title. But I felt also a strange sense of sadness. Part of me wanted the hullabaloo to die down, for the sake of Formula One's reputation. "When a hero has his bottom smacked in full view of the world, everyone is befuddled by the spectacle. The fact remains that if Michael Schumacher became available tomorrow, every team manager in the pit-lane would be in the queue for his services. That's the reality of his reputation."



Schumacher: facing fine



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